

SMOKE SIGNALS

For Radio Amateurs • By Radio Amateurs

Published Monthly Since 1969 • Our 28th Year
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Mir ham radio back on the air



Mike Foale, KB5UAC, in his Russian space suit, is a current resident on the Russian Mir space Station. In English, Mir translates to "peace".

- NASA Photo

Ham radio aboard the Mir has been getting some casual use again as the three-man crew continues efforts to get life back to normal aboard the Russian space station. General ham radio operation was suspended in the immediate wake of a mishap that damaged one of the Mir's compartments. But now, US ham-astronaut Mike Foale, KB5UAC, expressed "thanks for all your good wishes" to hams around the world. The British-born Foale is using both 2 meters and 70 cm "sparingly," according to SAREX Principal Investigator Matt Bordelon, KC5BTL. Werner Staubitzer, VO1CAT, in Pouch Cove, Newfoundland, reports he had "a lengthy QSO" with Foale. Foale told VO1CAT that the crew was "feeling fine and is making repairs to the damages as best they can while waiting for the required parts to arrive." Ray Webber, ZS6RSW, in Pretoria, South Africa, reports that he connected to Mir on packet (using the 145.800/200 split-frequency pair) on June 28.

Foale and his Russian cosmonaut crew mates again found themselves in crisis mode in early July when the spacecraft lost attitude control. In a packet message to MIREX CEO Dave Larsen, N6CO, Foale related how, after the alarm sounded, "we go rushing from one dark module to another, trying to look out windows, and point the solar arrays. The station dies very quickly if we don't do this." Foale compared the situation to "being on a yacht at sea, with the wind changing all the time, and having to rush around pulling sails down, or putting them up, before a storm comes."

Foale said the attitude failure has made the crew very wary of the next Progress rocket docking, set for Monday, July 7.

"Life on Mir is characterized by long periods of monotonous, serene calm, and short interludes of extreme frenzy, I am learning," Foale said.

The Progress rocket will supply cables and a special plate to fit over the hatch of the damaged Spektr science module. The crew will try to make cable connections to get the station back up to full power. Another Russian crew is scheduled to fly up in August to seal the leak and put the Spektr module back on line. Meanwhile, Foale and the cosmonauts are working on their new -- but faulty -- oxygen generator to get it back on line. They are using incendiary candles to supply oxygen temporarily.

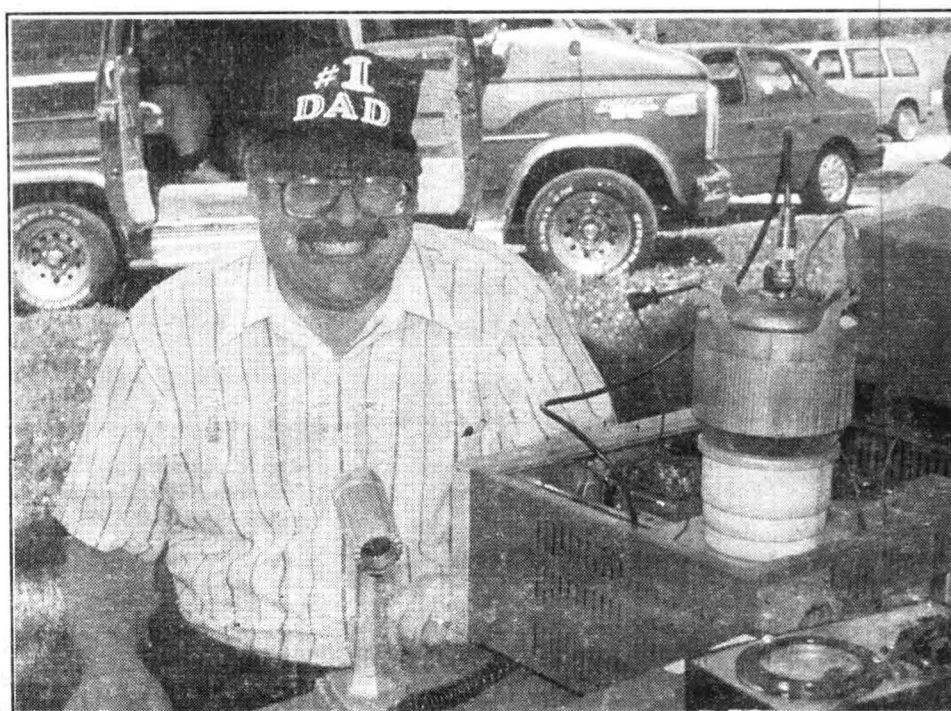
Although the cosmonauts have begun practicing the repair routines, they and Foale still have a lot of time on their hands, and much of that is spent in darkness to conserve electricity. This means Foale has time for hamming, and, so far, no one's objected to his using a few watts of power for the radio. While Mir remains a space station in trouble, Foale is providing Amateur Radio with an intimate view of the danger and drama.

KB5UAC plans to operate frequently, whenever NASA and Moscow are not using their main communication channels. Look for him on 145.800 MHz, operating split. Occasionally, while Mir is over the US, you also may find him on 145.985 MHz (simplex).

To track the Mir spacecraft, check out http://liftoff.msfc.nasa.gov/temp/Mir_loc.html. The page presents a graphical representation of Mir's location and updates every minute.

-- Thanks to Roy Neal, K6DUE, for his contribution to this report in *The ARRL Letter*, 7/4/97

Field Day Follies



Steve Schwoegler, K9WD (formerly WB9RNL), Wisconsin Dells, relaxes after lifting the outboard power amplifier atop the Yaesu HF rig at the Field Day site of the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club. Try as they did, even the club's best techs could not get the device, bought from Suspect Radio Sales near Enon, Ohio, to work. Steve had strained more than a few muscles lifting the device, but says he's "feeling much better now."

Photo and "story" by BSSS' creative staff

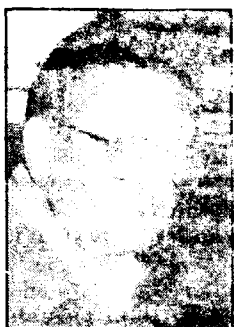
FCC adds forfeiture guidelines

The FCC has amended Sec 1.80 of its rules to incorporate, by reference, the Commission's forfeiture policies and schedule of forfeitures. The Compliance and Information Bureau's action "sets the framework for the forfeiture policy that will be part of the Commission's enforcement strategy" in the wake of FCC rules changes resulting from the telecommunications Act of 1996, an FCC announcement said. The Commission said the guidelines "seek to add predictability in the forfeiture amounts assessed for similar violations among different services." Adopting the forfeiture guidelines as a note to the rule allows the FCC to provide guidance on base forfeiture amounts "to all potential violators." The FCC acted June 19.

-FCC in *The ARRL Letter*, 7/4/97

FLIPPING THE PAGES

What's Happening: Edited by Ken Ebner, K9EN	2
Here and There	4, 5
The Computer Corner: by Stan Kaplan, WB9ROR	6
To Test or Not to Test	6
FCC Call Sign Update	6
Foundation for Amateur Radio Names Scholarship Winners	7
The VERY Special Olympics	7
Propagation Predictions	7
New Products	8
Help Needed for Scout Outing	8
Sheboygan Amateur Radio Club	9
Notes from the Section Manager	9
Wisconsin Association of Repeaters	10
Riverland Amateur Radio Club	10
Wisconsin Valley Radio Association	10
Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club	10
Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.	11
ManCoRad Radio Club	11
Watts Snoo (Central Wisconsin Radio Amateurs at UW-Stevens Point)	12
Taylor County Area Amateur Radio Club	12
Quarter Century Wireless Association/Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter 162	12
Racine Magacycle Club	13
Red cedar Repeater Association	13
Washington County Amateur Radio Club	13
The Wisconsin Packeteer	14
Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club	15



WHAT'S HAPPENING

✕ Swapfests and Other Social Events ✕ Club Meetings
✕ Amateur Radio Exam Schedules

EDITED BY KENNETH A. EBNETER, K9EN, 822 WAUONA TRAIL, PORTAGE, WI 53901

Swapfests

and Other Social Events

SATURDAY - SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 1997. ARRL National Convention, Jacksonville, FL. See QST for details.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 1997. Copper Country RAA, Houghton, MI. Roland Borgan, KB8XI, PO Box 217, Dollar Bay, MI 49922, (906) 482-2403. E-mail: rborgan@up.net

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3, 1997. HAMNIC Marshfield Area Amateur Society will be holding their 6th annual picnic, potluck, swapfest in Wildwood park, Marshfield, WI. Gather around 11:00 a.m. All welcome. Contact Guy A. Boucher, KF9XX, 107 West Third St., Marshfield, WI 54449. (715) 384 4323. PACKET: KF9XX@W9IHW.WI.USA.NA. e-mail: guyboucher@tznnet.com

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9, 1997. CIRCUS CITY SWAPFEST, Sauk County Fairgrounds, Baraboo, WI. Vendors, tail gate area, free parking, concessions, camping. \$5.00 (\$4.00 advance), \$5.00 per table (8 foot). Contact Steve, N9UDO, at (608) 356-4777 (voice or fax). steven9udo@baraboo.com. or Bill, N9KXX at (608) 643-6453 (evenings), (608) 643-6908 (days), (608) 643-8850 (fax)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10, 1997. Michigan State Convention, Jackson, MI. Terry Osborn, K8SMC, 508 Dalton Rd., Jackson, MI 49201. (517) 784-2398.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 1997. NORTHWOODS HAMFEST, Sugar Camp Town Hall, Rhinelander, WI. 13 miles north of Rhinelander on HWY 17 to Camp Four Road in Sugar Camp. Sponsored by the Rhinelander Repeater Association and the Northwoods ARES. Doors open at 8:00 a.m. Admission \$2.00. ARRL testing. Contact: Mary Berger, NS9Q, 367 Lois St., Rhinelander, WI 54501 (715) 362-9296.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24, 1997. Woodstock '97 Hamfest, McHenry County Fairgrounds, Woodstock, IL. Contact: Tri County Radio Group, PO Box 3107, Skokie, IL 60076-6107. Voice/Fax (847) 658-1678.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30, 1997. Namekagon Valley Wireless Assn., Hayward, WI. Contact: Mary Lindberg, KB9LFF, 9316 East Evergreen Ave., Solon Springs, WI 54873. (715) 378-2368

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31, 1997. Great River ARC, Iowa Antique RC, & Tri-State Computer Users Group, Dubuque, IA. Contact: Jerry Ehlers, NONLU, 3115 Brunswick St., Dubuque, IA 52001. (319) 583-1060. E-mail: jerryonlu@mwci.net

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1997. W9DXCC Convention & Banquet, Holiday Inn, Rolling Meadows, IL. Contact: Chairman, Phil Camera, KB9CRY, (708) 343-1696, FAX (708) 343-3494. E-mail: iphil@megsnet.net

SATURDAY - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21-22, 1997. Peoria Superfest '97 at Exposition Gardens, Peoria, IL. Contact: SUPERFEST '97, PO Box 3508, Peoria, IL 61612-3508.

SATURDAY - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27-28, 1997. RADIO EXPO 97, Lake County Fairgrounds, Grayslake, IL. Contact: Chicago FM Club, PO Box 56724, Harwood Hts, IL 60656-0724. (708) 457-0966.

SATURDAY, November 2, 1997. Fox Cities ARC, Kaukauna, WI. Contact: Chad Pennings, N9PRC, 1912 Russett Ct, Appleton, WI 54914. (414) 759-0799.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15-16, 1997. Fort Wayne Hamfest at Allen County War Memorial Coliseum Exposition Center, Fort Wayne IN. Contact: ACARTS, PO Box 10342, Fort Wayne IN 46851. (219) 484-1314.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11, 1998. 26th annual Midwinter Swapfest, sponsored by the West Allis Radio Amateurs Club, Waukesha County Expo Center Forum, Waukesha, WI. Contact: WARAC Swapfest, PO Box 1072, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 1998. Adams county hamfest scheduled for June 1, 1997 has been canceled. Plans are already in place to put forth a much larger and expanded Hamfest next year.

SATURDAY, JULY 11, 1998. South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club Swapfest, South Milwaukee, WI. (414) 762-3235

See also the back page and flyer ads for additional information on many of these events

Let us know of your dates as soon as you know them. We will list them and perhaps help avoid conflicts with other events.

As a service to our readers, this section of Badger State Smoke Signals is available without charge to list your upcoming Swapfest, Hamfest, dinner, picnic, party or other event of interest to Radio Amateurs in Wisconsin and nearby areas. Send information on your event to Kenneth A. Ebneter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. In addition, space is available at attractive rates on our advertising pages. For information on rates and requirements for our advertising pages, please contact K9ZZ or K9EN.



CLUB MEETINGS

Due to space limitations we cannot always carry the full listing of Wisconsin and area club meetings. Please save the following listings for your future reference. We hope to have the full listing at least three times a year, and will carry any changes or additions between full listings.

ARROWHEAD RADIO AMATEUR CLUB, INC. (SUPERIOR, WI)

The monthly meeting of the ARAC is held on the second Tuesday of the month at the WITC Conference Center, 600 N. 21st Street, Superior, Wisconsin, at 7:30 p.m. Board meetings are held prior to the regular meeting

BADGER AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY (W9YT - U. W. - MADISON)

Monthly while school in session: 2nd Tues. 5:30 p.m. Bldg. 265G, Electrical Engineering Bldg. For more information call (608) 262-1142.

CENTRAL WISCONSIN RADIO AMATEURS, LTD (STEVENS POINT)

Second Wed

EAU CLAIRE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

2nd Tue. - 7:30 p.m. - Parks and Recreation Bldg. Oxford and 1st Streets, Eau Claire. Hamis, guests welcome. Travelers welcome on wide area club repeater K9UXP, 146.31/91.

FALLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC

The Falls Amateur Radio Club, Inc. meets the last Wednesday of the month at the Bank One building in Germantown, WI at Pilgrim and Mequon Roads. The doors open at 7:00 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. "GUESTS ARE WELCOME"

FOUR LAKES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (MADISON, WI)

First and third Tues. - 7:30 p.m. - Red Cross Bldg. 4860 Sheroyan Ave., room "C" downstairs. It is the next building west of the Hill Farms State Office building. The meetings start promptly at 7:30 p.m.

FOX CITIES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Third Mon. - 7:00 p.m. - Roosevelt Jr. High School, 318 E. Brewster St., Appleton. Info: (414) 766-3886

GREAT MILWAUKEE DX ASSOCIATION

Fourth Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Contact any GMDXA member or Gary Schwartz, K9GS, (414) 363-4439. garyk9gs@solari.sol.net, K9GS@WA9KEC.WI.USA.NOAM, Packet cluster: NB9C, for meeting location

GREEN BAY MIKE AND KEY CLUB

Second Thur. 7:30 pm - Media Services area of the J. M. Science Building at St. Norbert College in DePere

GREEN FOX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Third Mon. - 7:30 p.m. - Green Lake Town Hall, int. of county hwy's. K and N

KETTLE MORAINES RADIO AMATEURS

Second Fri. - 7:30 p.m. at the Waukesha County Technical College, Campus Science Building, Room 102. Talk-in on the N9KS 147.39 repeater.

LAKESHORE RPTR ASSN

Last Tue., Jan., Apr., Jul. & Oct. - 7:30 p.m. Red Cross Bldg. 4521 Taylor Ave., Racine, WI

Badger State Smoke Signals

Amateur Radio Education and Information

CHAIRMAN: Kenneth A. Ebneter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. Telephone (608) 742-3560.

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TREASURER: Jim Decker, WB9UQT, P.O. Box 337, Baraboo, WI 53913-0337.

EDITORIAL BOARD: Ken Ebneter, K9EN; Dave Knaus, WA9POV; Don Evenson, K9JYX; Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ.

Subscriptions

1 year	(12 issues)	\$13.95
2 years	(24 issues - save \$2.00)	\$23.95
3 years	(36 issues - save \$4.00)	\$33.95

Special club package reduced rates are available. For information, contact Ken Ebneter, K9EN.

When to Send It

The closing date for each issue is the first of the month for the next month's issue. For example, the closing date for the June issue is May 1. The only exception is for participating clubs' minutes. Participating clubs are requested to send their material no later than FIVE DAYS after the club's meeting. For example, if a club meets on the 4th of the month, the material should be sent no later than

the 9th of that month. This material is to be sent to the Editor.

Where to Send It

Address changes and corrections should be sent to Ken Ebneter. Editorial material, photographs, feature articles, display ads, and exchange papers should be sent to Jim Romelfanger. Inquiries about advertising should be directed to Ken Ebneter. Club, swapfest, and Test Point information should be sent to Ken Ebneter.

Swapfest ads should be sent to Jim Romelfanger NO LATER THAN EIGHT WEEKS BEFORE THE EVENT'S DATE.

Subscriptions should be sent, with check or money order, to Jim Decker.

Conditions for Reprinting or BBS Posting Material from Badger State Smoke Signals

Permission is hereby granted to reprint articles or posting articles on radio or telephone bulletin boards from *Badger State Smoke Signals*, providing credit is given to the original author, publication in which the article first appeared, and to *Badger State Smoke Signals*. **THIS CREDIT IS MANDATORY, AND NO MATERIAL MAY BE PRINTED OR POSTED UNLESS IT IS GIVEN.**

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Badger State Smoke Signals is incorporated as a Wisconsin non-stock, non-profit organization.

Editorial Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in editorials, guest editorials, columns, articles, and letters from readers are the opinions of the authors only, and do not, unless otherwise stated, express or imply endorsement by *Badger State Smoke Signals*, or by any other individual or organization.

M & M AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

General meeting held second Thursday each month at 7:00 p.m. in cafeteria of BAMCM basement. Tenth Ave., Menominee, MI. All amateurs and guests are welcome. Use the 147.000+ repeater. Our net is Sunday at 7:00 p.m. on the repeater. Our address is P.O. Box 1082, Marinette, WI 54143.

MANITOWOC COUNTY RADIO AMATEURS

Directors Meeting: First Wed. Held at 6:30 p.m. in the basement, Manitowoc City Hall, 817 Franklin St., Manitowoc.

General meeting: Second Wed. Held at 7:30 p.m. at Associated Manitowoc Bank, corner of 10th and Franklin Streets.

MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS CLUB

Last Thursday evening, Redemption Lutheran Church, 4057 North Mayfair Road, Wauwatosa 53222. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. 12 months of the year.

NORTHWOODS ARC (RHINELANDER WI)

Third Tue.. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. Meeting at 7:30 p.m. South Park School, Rhinelander, WI. Talk-in on 146.94/34. All interested visitors to the Northwoods are welcomed.

OZAUKEE RADIO CLUB

Second Wed. - 7:30 p.m. - Grafton Multipurpose Senior Center.

QCWA - WISCONSIN CHAPTER #55

Contact Erwin Froelich, W9RZW, Treasurer, Rte 1 Box 177D, Pine River WI 54965. For information about meeting dates or joining QCWA Chapter #55. The Wisconsin Chapter holds Spring and Fall dinner meetings.

QCWA - SOUTHEAST WISCONSIN CHAPTER #162

Meets third Mon. monthly, 7:30 p.m., Around the Clock Restaurant, 3012 Rapids Drive, Racine.

RACINE MEGACYCLE CLUB

Second Mon., 7:30 p.m., Red Cross Bldg., 4521 Taylor Ave., Racine, WI

RED CEDAR REPEATER ASSOCIATION, INC.

Saturday coffee at Hardees in North Menomonie, corner of Highways 12 and 25 at 9:00 a.m. Social hour on 4th Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at The Peppermill Too, 1414 9th Street in the L-Mart shopping center, for the months of January, March, April and September through November. Guests welcome.

RIVERLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

First Tue. - 7:00 p.m. - Onalaska Community Center, Onalaska WI.

ROCK RIVER RADIO CLUB

Monthly - first Tue. - 7:00 p.m. at Dodge County Sheriff's Department, 141 N. Main, Juneau, WI.

ARES Net: 146.04/146.64 Mondays at 7:30 p.m. Sat.s on 7277 KHz at 10:30 a.m.

SHEBOYGAN COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Second Tue. - 7:00 p.m. - Sheboygan Red Cross/Boy Scout Bldg., 2032 Erie Ave.

SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

First Wed. - Legion Post 434, Shepard Ave., Oak Creek WI. Auctions in March and October.

ST. CROIX VALLEY RADIO AMATEURS HUDSON

Club meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at the St. Croix County Emergency Government Center on Charmicael Road in Hudson, WI. A short business meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. followed by the program. Talk in is available on the 145.130 MHz repeater. All are welcome!

TAYLOR COUNTY AREA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (TCAARC) - MEDFORD

Usually the 1st Thur. of the month at 7:00 PM sharp. Usual location: emergency government meeting room/Red Cross office, basement of Sheriff's Annex to Taylor County Courthouse, 2nd and Ogden Sts., Medford, WI. Talk-in on 147.15 (+600) repeater. Amateurs & guests are welcome. ARES Net, Wed. nights at 8:30 PM on 147.15 (+600) repeater. For info contact: Mike Schoenfuss, N9GHZ, P.O. Box 401, Abbotsford, WI 54405, phone (715) 223-3996.

TRI-COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Meetings held at members homes. Usually monthly on Sunday afternoon. Contact: Glenn Eisenbrandt, (414) 563-6502 or John Saterlee, (414) 563-6381.

WASHINGTON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Second Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Washington County Court House. Net on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. on 146.73.

WATERTOWN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

First Thur. of the month at 7:00 p.m., The Watertown Public Library, 100 S. Water St., Watertown, WI.

WAUPACA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

First Sat. in March, June, September and December, at 9:30 a.m. at the Waupaca Fire Station in downtown Waupaca.

"CQ First Tue." - A social gathering and dutch treat luncheon at the King's Table in King, WI, on Highway QQ just south of highways 10 and 54 on the west side of Waupaca.

WEST ALLIS RADIO AMATEUR CLUB

Second Tue. - 8:00 p.m. - St. Peters Episcopal Church, 7929 Lincoln Ave. Entrance is at rear of building on alley.

THE WINNEBAGO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (Formerly the Oshkosh Amateur Radio Club)

The Winnebago ARC welcomes all Amateurs and interested persons to join us at the Oshkosh Armory on Armory Place, Oshkosh, WI. Meetings are held the third Sunday each month at 1600 hrs. Talk in on 147.24 repeater.

For further information contact KB9IME, Dan Lenz, at (414) 233-7145.

WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF REPEATERS

Meetings are held Quarterly, with time and location to be announced. Repeater licensees, trustees, and sponsors are urged to attend W.A.R. meetings. All interested parties are welcome, as well.

WISCONSIN RAPIDS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Third Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. in room 114 of the Wood County Courthouse. Talk-in on 146.79 for entry into the building.

WISCONSIN VALLEY RADIO ASSOCIATION (WAUSAU)

First Tue. - 7:30 p.m. - Location varies: info on 146.04/64, Wausau.

YELLOW THUNDER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (BARABOO)

Days rotate: The meeting dates for 1996 are Aug 14, Sep 12, Oct 15, Nov 13, with the Holiday party scheduled for Friday December 13, 1996. All meetings will be at the Baraboo Civic Center, room 14, unless otherwise noted. Starting time for the monthly club meeting is 7:30 p.m. The program start time after the meeting is 8:00 p.m., with a one hour limit.

Let Badger State Smoke Signals know your club's meeting dates, and we will let our readers know of your meetings and activities. There may be Amateurs in your area interested in joining your club, or members of other clubs interested in making an interclub visit.

The Test Point



Amateur Radio Examination Locations and Schedules in the Wisconsin Area

August 02, 1997	Hudson, WI
August 02, 1997	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
August 02, 1997	Pewaukee, WI
August 02, 1997	St. Paul, MN
August 09, 1997	Blaine, MN
August 09, 1997	Bloomington, MN
August 09, 1997	Madison, WI
August 09, 1997	Oak Creek, WI (MRAC)
August 12, 1997	Apple Valley, MN
August 16, 1997	Cottage Grove, MN
August 16, 1997	Loves Park, IL
August 16, 1997	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
August 19, 1997	Eden Prairie, MN
August 30, 1997	Tomahawk, WI
August 30, 1997	Wauwatosa, WI (MRAC)
September 06, 1996	Racine, WI
September 06, 1997	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
September 06, 1997	St. Paul, MN
September 11, 1997	Apple Valley, MN
September 13, 1997	Blaine, MN
September 13, 1997	Bloomington, MN
September 13, 1997	Madison, WI
September 13, 1997	Marshfield, WI
September 13, 1997	Marshfield, WI
September 13, 1997	Oak Creek, WI (MRAC)
September 17, 1997	Eden Prairie, MN
September 20, 1997	Appleton, WI
September 20, 1997	Cottage Grove, MN
September 20, 1997	Loves Park, IL
September 20, 1997	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
September 27, 1997	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
September 27, 1997	Tomahawk, WI
October 04, 1997	Hudson, WI
October 04, 1997	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
October 04, 1997	Racine, WI
October 04, 1997	St. Paul, MN
October 09, 1997	Apple Valley, MN
October 11, 1997	Blaine, MN
October 11, 1997	Bloomington, MN
October 11, 1997	Eau Claire, WI
October 11, 1997	Madison, WI
October 11, 1997	Oak Creek, WI (MRAC)
October 15, 1997	Eden Prairie, MN
October 18, 1997	Cottage Grove, MN
October 18, 1997	Loves Park, IL
October 18, 1997	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
October 18, 1997	Redgranite, WI
October 25, 1997	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
October 25, 1997	Tomahawk, WI
November 01, 1997	Menomonie, WI
November 01, 1997	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
November 01, 1997	Racine, WI
November 01, 1997	St. Paul, MN
November 02, 1997	Kaukauna, WI
November 06, 1997	Apple Valley, MN
November 08, 1997	Blaine, MN

November 08, 1997	Bloomington, MN
November 08, 1997	Madison, WI
November 08, 1997	Oak Creek, WI (MRAC)
November 15, 1997	Cottage Grove, MN
November 15, 1997	Loves Park, IL
November 15, 1997	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
November 15, 1997	Redgranite, WI
November 19, 1997	Eden Prairie, MN
November 29, 1997	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
December 06, 1997	Hudson, WI
December 06, 1997	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
December 06, 1997	Racine, WI
December 06, 1997	St. Paul, MN
December 11, 1997	Apple Valley, MN
December 13, 1997	Blaine, MN
December 13, 1997	Bloomington, MN
December 13, 1997	Madison, WI
December 13, 1997	Marshfield, WI
December 13, 1997	Marshfield, WI
December 13, 1997	Oak Creek, WI (MRAC)
December 13, 1997	Redgranite, WI
December 16, 1997	Eden Prairie, MN
December 20, 1997	Cottage Grove, MN
December 20, 1997	Loves Park, IL
December 20, 1997	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
January 24, 1998	Appleton, WI
Monthly, 1st Sat.	Racine, WI
(except January, July & August)	
Monthly, 1st Sat.	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
Monthly, 1st Sat.	St. Paul, MN
Monthly, 2nd Thu.	Apple Valley, MN
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Oak Creek, WI (MRAC)
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Madison, WI
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Bloomington, MN
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Blaine, MN
Monthly, 3rd Tue.	Eden Prairie, MN
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Loves Park, IL
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Cottage Grove, MN
Monthly, Last Sat.	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
(except December)	
No test on June 28, 1997 (Field Day).	
Monthly, Last Sat.	Tomahawk, WI
(January thru October only)	
Quarterly	Marshfield, WI
(Second Saturday every third month.)	
Quarterly	Eau Claire, WI
(Second Saturday Jan., Apr., & Oct.)	
plus annual summer hamfest.)	

Many Swapfests/Hamfests offer exam sessions. If not shown above contact the sponsoring club in the Swapfest column on page 2.

The FCC now requires applicants to show their ORIGINAL AMATEUR LICENSE to the VEC. A copy of your license must be attached to your FCC form 610. You will also be required to have a photo ID, or other acceptable identification.

GENERAL RULES**FOR MOST EXAMINATIONS:**

Be sure to check with sponsors in the event there are changes and/or errors in the dates or information given.

Some examinations require filing an FCC Form 610 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date. (Some VECs permit walk-ins. Check with sponsor.)

To register, you must first secure a copy of the current FCC Form 610 and fill it out completely (AND CORRECTLY). Get your form from an FCC Field Office, the ARRL. Send a 32c/ SASE if you request one from the ARRL. In most cases, forms can also be obtained from the sponsoring group.

ARRL/VEC examinations require a check for \$6.25 payable to "ARRL/VEC".

The FCC now requires applicants to show their ORIGINAL AMATEUR LICENSE or CSCE to the VEC. You must also have two good copies of your license or CSCE. A copy of your license or CSCE must be attached to your FCC form 610 and most VEC want a copy for their records. You will also be required to have a photo ID, or other acceptable identification.

Technician class licensees must show proof of testing before March 21, 1987, to upgrade to General with a code test only.

Additional information is given below.

MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS CLUB (MRAC/VEC)**SECOND SATURDAY - OAK CREEK, WI****LAST SATURDAY - MILWAUKEE, WI**

SECOND SATURDAY DATE: 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Wauwatosa Savings Bank, 6560 S. 27th St., Oak Creek, WI.

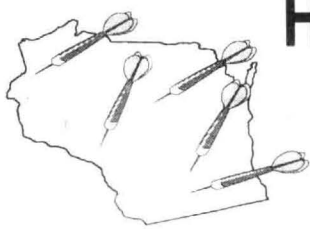
LAST SATURDAY DATES: (except December): 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at Amateur Electronic Supply (AES), 5710 W. Good Hope Rd., Milwaukee, WI. Note: For Additional Information: Call (414) 466-HAMS (Answering Machine).

Bring along your ORIGINAL license, CSCE and one (1) good quality photocopy of each, plus two forms of identification, such a driver's license, etc. Also required is \$6.25 for the exam fee. WALK-INS are welcome. To register in advance, use a post card: Print the grade of license you are applying for, your name, address, and telephone number. Send the card to MRAC/VEC, Milwaukee Radio Amateurs Club, PO Box 25707, Milwaukee, WI 53225.

BADGER EXAMINERS (BE) - MILWAUKEE

Badger Examiners group testing at AES (Amateur Electronic Supply) at 6th and Good Hope, every third Saturday MORNING. Exam times are 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon, at the old Serman Printing shop, just 300 feet west of the AES store. Novice to Extra are offered, and all test materials are provided, fee is \$6.25, and bring your original license, or CSCE if needed. Also available are Commercial license exams GROL (General Radiotelephone license), GMDSS, Telegraph, Etc. Fee is \$35.00. For more information call Gary Sharbuno, W19M at (414) 355-0237.

(continued on page 15)



HERE and THERE

FCC to open vanity gate 3

The long wait is over for Advanced class amateurs. The FCC has just announced that it will open filing Gate 3 of the Vanity Call Sign Program on Wednesday, August 6, 1997. Advanced class hams will be able to apply for a call sign appropriate to their license class on or after that date. Applicants must file either a paper FCC Form 610V or electronically via the FCC's Web site at <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/amradsrv.html> and pay the current \$30 fee.

The August 6 deadline squeaks under the implementation of the FCC's new fiscal year 1997 fee schedule, adopted June 16. Under the FY 97 schedule, which becomes effective September 15, 1997, the vanity application fee will jump to \$50 a year. The ARRL had asked the FCC to suspend implementation of the higher FY 1997 fee until after the remaining gates have been opened and applicants had an opportunity to file under the old schedule. The FCC's response, buried within the Report and Order adopting the higher fees, suggests the FCC could also be planning to open Gate 4 fairly soon. "We expect our remaining vanity call sign 'gates' to open before the effective date of our FY 1997 regulatory fee payment requirement," the FCC said in turning down the request for a delay. But, the FCC added that applicants "are expected to pay the fee applicable at the time they file."

The bottom line is that hams applying for a vanity call sign on or after September 15 must pay the \$50 fee.

Payment of fees may be made by check (payable to FCC), bank draft, money order or credit card. If paying by credit card, you must also complete and submit FCC Form 159 with your FCC Form 610V. Do not send cash. Send your application package to: Federal Communications Commission, Amateur Vanity Call Sign Request, Box 358924, Pittsburgh, PA 15251-5924.

If you file a paper application, remember that legibility is critical! If your application is not able to be deciphered easily by FCC personnel, you could experience a delay in processing, lose the opportunity to obtain a requested call sign or even obtain a call sign different from what you want. Be sure to include your current Amateur Radio call sign on your vanity application.

Under Gate 3, you must hold an unexpired Advanced class operator/primary station license to request a vanity call sign for your primary station. To request a vanity call sign for a club station under Gate 3, you must also hold an unexpired club station license grant listing you as the license trustee. Applicants should refer to the licensee database to verify that a requested call sign is not already assigned. A call sign is normally assignable two years following license expiration, surrender, revocation, set aside, cancellation, void ab initio, or death of the grantee.

Using Form 610V or its on-line electronic equivalent, applicants may request up to 25 call signs in the order of preference. The first assignable call sign on the list will be the one the FCC assigns. Remember: When requesting a call sign under Gate 3 for your primary or club station, the call sign must have been unassigned for at least two years. As an Advanced class operator, you may request a call sign only from groups B, C or D.

Any call sign requested must be one designated for the region of your mailing address, as follows:

- One of the contiguous 48 states: Regions 1 to 10.
- Alaska: Regions 1 to 11.
- American Samoa: Regions 1 to 10, or Region 13 having numeral 8.
- Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands: Regions 1 to 10, or Region 13 having numeral 0.
- Guam: Regions 1 to 10, or Region 13 having numeral 2.
- Hawaii: Regions 1 to 10, or Region 13 having numeral 6 or 7.
- Puerto Rico: Regions 1 to 10, or Region 12 having numeral 3 or 4.
- Virgin Islands: Regions 1 to 10, or Region 12 having numeral 2.

For explanations of Groups B, C and D and the geographic regions, see Fact Sheet PR5000 Number 206S, Amateur Station Sequential Call Sign System (or

Special event station

W9DK (ManCoRad radio club) from Manitowoc, WI, will be operating from the WWII submarine "USS Cobia" to commemorate the 51st anniversary of its decommissioning.

Operation will be August 16th from 1400-2200Z (9 a.m.-5 p.m.) SSB on 7250 and 14250 kHz.

For QSL: send QSL and #10 SASE to:
Fred Neuenfeldt, W6BSF, 4932 So. 10th St., Manitowoc, WI. 54220-9121.

see The ARRL Letter Electronic Update, August 16, 1996, available on the ARRLWeb at <http://www.arrl.org/>. For more information on the vanity call sign program, see Fact Sheet PR5000 Number 206V Amateur Station Vanity Call Sign System.

If you file before the opening date or do not qualify under the Gate 3 eligibility standards, your application will be dismissed. General, Technician Plus, Technician, and Novice class operators will become eligible to request vanity call signs under Gate 4. The FCC has not indicated when it plans to open Gate 4.

For further information, contact the Consumer Assistance Branch at 800-322-1117 or call the FCC's National Call Center, 888-225-5322 (CALL FCC).

- The ARRL Letter, 7/4/97

Ham newsletter competition entries sought

The Amateur Radio News Service (ARNS) seeks entries in its annual competition to identify and recognize "superior performance in Amateur Radio journalism" and to evaluate club newsletters "with suggestions for improvement."

The contest is open to all ham radio organizations, and membership in ARNS is not required to enter. Prospective applicants should obtain a contest entry form from ARNS by sending a business-size sase to ARNS President Lee Knirko, W9MOL, 11 S La Salle St, Suite 2100, Chicago, IL 60603-1302. General circulation magazines and professional journals are not eligible to enter.

Along with the application, contestants should send to Knirko one copy of any issue of a club newsletter published between July 1996 and December 1997. The deadline for entries is December 31, 1997. Early submissions are welcome and encouraged. Judges award points on general format, appearance, content, general interest and attractiveness. Certificates will be awarded in the Superior, Excellent and Good categories, and club newsletter editors will get copies of the judging sheets and a summary of the newsletter's outstanding characteristics "as well as suggestions for improvement," ARNS says.

- Jerry Boyd, K6BZ/ARNS in The ARRL Letter, 7/4/97

FCC reminder

The FCC is warning companies that offer to modify scanning receivers (this includes many H-Ts with extended receive coverage) in order to receive cellular telephone frequencies that this activity prohibited by federal law and FCC rules. The FCC's reminder, issued July 10, noted that scanning receivers must be FCC-certified and incapable of "readily being altered by the user" to pick up the cellular bands. "The modification of scanners on a substantial scale to receive cellular frequencies will be considered to constitute manufacture of such equipment" in violation of federal law and FCC rules, the Public Notice said. "Entities engaged in such activity are cautioned to cease advertising and/or performing any such activity immediately."

- FCC in The ARRL Letter, 7/4/97

Third generation rides the rails

Bill Hommell III, KA9QFJ, Baraboo, is the third Hommell to ride the rails, this year operating the HF station on the Great Circus Train.

His father rode the train some years ago when he was mayor of the City of Baraboo, and his grandfather was a railroader.

Bill's shown in a photo with Wisconsin Governor Tommy Thompson on the next page. The photo was taken on the train between Waunakee and Madison.

Meet Bill and some of the other YTARC members at the Circus City Swapfest; see the ad below.

The man behind the machine



Here is the human face of the 146.01/.61 repeater in the Menomonie area, Steve Hart, KA9OMC. If you have ever used that repeater, he's the reason it's there and working because of the countless hours he spends keeping the collection of parts that make up the Red Cedar Repeater Association's system running. If you are in that area and hear his call, give him a shout and say "Thanks!" Steve is holding a plaque of appreciation from the friends and supporters of the RCRA.

- Info and photo from Tim Rose/WB9PMF

Racine Megacycle Club researching its history: Can you help?

The Racine Megacycle Club is in the process of researching its history. Our records and the memories of some of the older Amateur Radio Operators seems to indicate the club was organized somewhere between 1921 and 1925. The records also show that the club was affiliated with the American Radio Relay League in 1948. We have documents and newspaper articles dating back to 1946. We have no documents previous to this date. We do however have Amateur Radio Training manuals dating back to 1925. The club has had a roller coaster history of club participation. At times meetings were held at people's homes with 4 or 5 hams attending.

We have always had a close relationship with civil defense and emergency management offices in the area. We became a member of the Red Cross Association in 1976.

We have been compiling a list of "Silent Keys". To date the list contains the names of 50 past members who have died.

I would appreciate it if anyone who has any knowledge of our club's origins, were ever a member of our club, had any family members who were members or have any documents pertaining to our club, to please contact me. Or if anyone could direct me to where I could access this information, please let me know.

I am also looking for Field Day Records. There are no records previous to 1989. There are a few letters and news items. We are also missing the records from 1991.

Please contact Mary Urban (N9ZWE), Racine Megacycle Club Secretary, 4836 Nicholson Rd., Franksville, WI 53126. (414) 886-1458.

The next list of e-mail addresses and club URLs will appear in the September issue of BSSS. If your address has changed or if you want to be added to the list, please send the address to:

wa9pov@execpc.com

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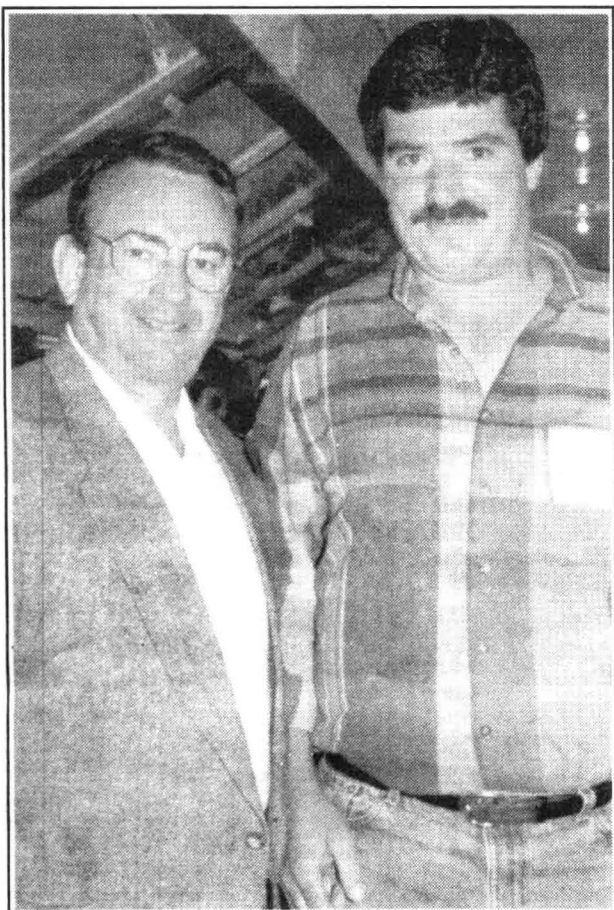
Steve Schulze, N9UDQ
(608) 356-2313/356-4777

Bill Klinkner, N9KXX
(608) 643-6908/643-6453

MIXED-UP QSO



On board the Great Circus Train



The HF operating team on the train this year included Bill Hommell, KA9QFJ, Baraboo, shown here in a "photo op" with Wisconsin Governor Tommy Thompson.

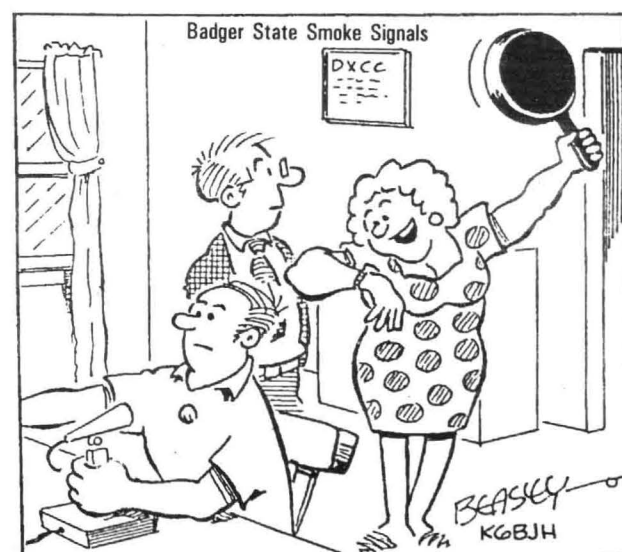


The other HF ops were George McArthur, N9ZGY, Baraboo (rear), and Steve Polishinski, WB9YSD, Sun Prairie.
Photos by Jim Romelfanger/K9ZZ

The HF/2-meter operation netted less QSOs than in 1996, due to very poor propagation on 20 and 40 meters. The gear was installed and tested on the air the evening of July 5, and the first contact was on 20 - in Bulgaria. Oh, if only the props had held for the next two days! Al Johnson, AA7CS, came up from Fort Atkinson to assist in the installation on the 6th. He also brought the team back after the trip. George Halper, W9SUF, transported N9ZGY back to Baraboo from Madison. The station did work Roy Neal, K6DUE, W1AW twice, and another special event station in the south, which was commemorating nudity. WE have a photo certificate and are wondering if they have one, too. We will see what we will see - or not see.

On the Lighter Side

By Bob Beasley, K6BJH



MY STEVIE IS PRETTY GOOD ABOUT SHUTTING DOWN AROUND 11:00 P.M.--- ONE WAY OR THE OTHER!

Thank you!

So many good people voluntarily contributed articles, photos and cartoons for this issue that it would be at the risk of omitting someone to give individual thanks to each one. Thus, this is a "big" thank you to you all.

Badger State Smoke Signals is and can be only what our readers make it by submitting material for publication.

Remember, too, that more than just the names you see in bylines are involved in every issue. While most of the make-ready is done by K9EN and myself, much effort is made by several behind-the-scenes people, too.

It is gratifying to see good material arrive. I know all our readers enjoy articles, stories, photos and cartoons like those in this issue. And, I hope all this "good stuff" keeps right on coming. It makes the voluntary work here feel appreciated - and so is yours. Again, thank you.

Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ, Editor

Volunteer Protection Act of 1997 signed by president

Ham radio volunteers stand to benefit from "The Volunteer Protection Act of 1997," signed into law June 18 by President Clinton. The measure aims to provide Federal protection from "frivolous, arbitrary, or capricious" lawsuits filed against individuals affiliated with nonprofit organizations and government entities and acting in their volunteer capacities. This would include members of the Amateur Auxiliary and volunteer examiners, as well as other volunteers.

In general, the new law will exempt a volunteer of a nonprofit organization or governmental entity from liability for harm caused by an act or omission of the volunteer on behalf of such organization or entity if:

- the volunteer was acting within the scope of his or her responsibilities at the time.
- the volunteer was properly licensed or otherwise authorized for the activities or practice in the State in which the harm occurred.
- the harm was not caused by willful or criminal misconduct, gross negligence, reckless misconduct, or a conscious, flagrant indifference to the rights or safety of the individual harmed.
- the harm was not caused by the volunteer operating a motor vehicle, vessel, aircraft, or other vehicle for which the State requires the operator or owner to possess an operator's license or maintain insurance.

The law, known as Public Law 105-19, becomes effective September 16, 1997.

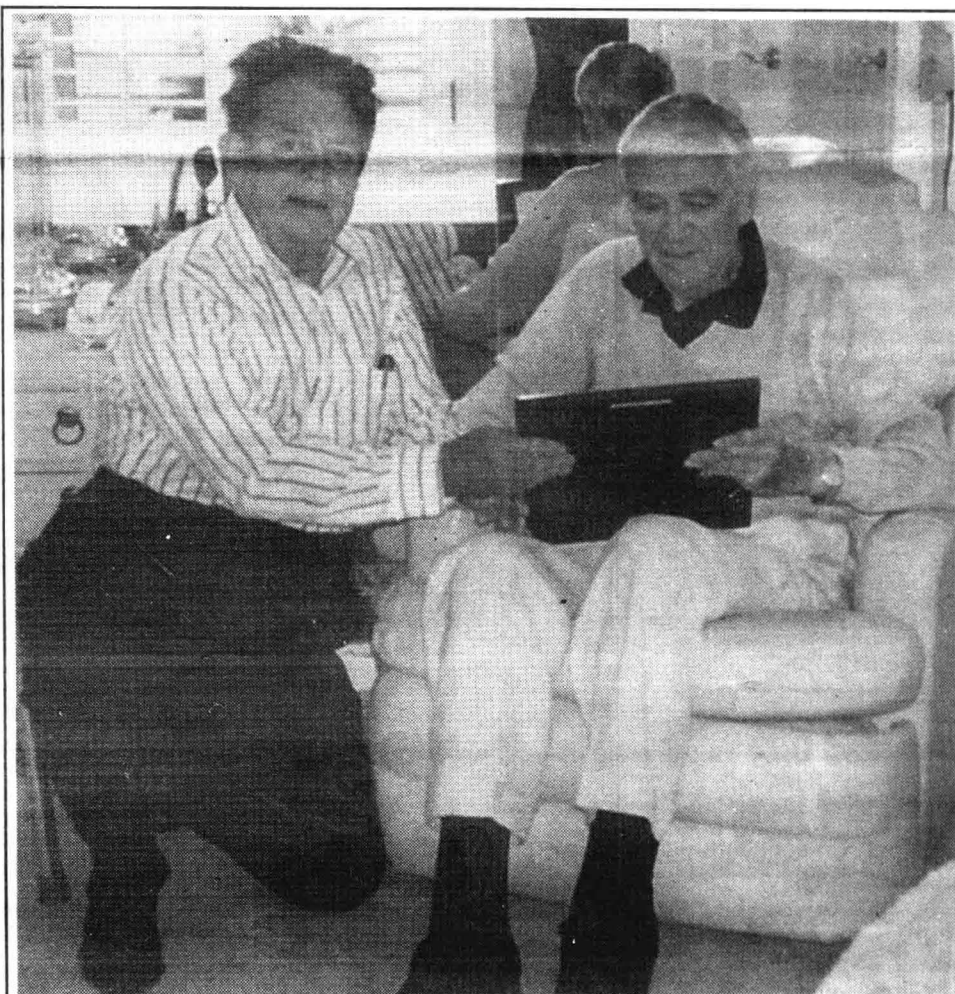
- The ARRL Letter, 6/27/97

W9ZVY: 75 years a ham

The Quarter Century Wireless Association's prestigious 75-year plaque (#111) was recently hand-delivered and presented to John Catlin, W9ZVY (right), by Chapter 55 Treasurer Erwin Froelich, W9-RZW.

John learned the code at age 10, and had a Ford spark transmitter and crystal receiver at 12. He was licensed at 14. John is retired from Kimberly-Clark where he was a chemical engineer. Before and after WW II, he ran a "full gal-lon". Now, at 8 each morning, he checks the 20 and 40 meter CW bands, and enjoys answering CQ calls. Still active, obviously, he is planning to be on the bands until he is at least 100.

Story and photo from Erwin Froelich/W9RZW



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AUGUST 1997

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No. 45: Another Approach to Windows 95 Dual Boot

For sure I am still in the learning phase with Windows 95, and a recent email message from W9DMK, Bob, underscored my ignorance. Bob researched and fully tested a way to dual boot with Win95 that may be many people's answer, without the need to purchase any third party software. I thought it of sufficient interest to print Bob's slightly edited method here, with his kind permission. *Our hats go off with a thank you to W9DMK!*

BACKGROUND: If you own the Win95 CD ROM, be sure to consult the WIN95RK.HLP file which contains the topic MS-DOS.SYS - SETTING UP DUAL BOOT CAPABILITIES. The steps below will permit installation and running of an older DOS on a Win95 system. Once you have carried out these steps you can also install Win3.1 as well, but be sure that the Win3.1 goes in a directory other than C:\WINDOWS (Win 95 must reside there).

STEP 1: If they exist, save a copy of your Win95 AUTOEXEC.BAT and CONFIG.SYS files somewhere on your hard drive other than in the root directory. (Win95 systems do not need these files so they may well not be present).

STEP 2: Make sure you have a Win95 Startup (boot) Disk. If you don't already have one, create one from START | Settings | Control Panel | Add/Remove Programs | Windows Setup | Startup Disk | Create Disk.

STEP 3: Rename the following files as shown, so they have the extension DOS:

AUTOEXEC.BAT ⇒ AUTOEXEC.DOS

CONFIG.SYS ⇒ CONFIG.DOS

and edit each of the files to be appropriate for your DOS environment. Don't worry about details for now since you can fine tune them later. In fact, you can just "REM" out each statement in each file for now, if you wish.

STEP 4: Boot with a DOS disk (e.g., MS-DOS 6.22, the latest stand-alone MS-DOS version) and execute the following command: SYS C:. This will install the essential hidden files IO.SYS and MSDOS.SYS, as well as the non-hidden file COMMAND.COM (and perhaps DBLSPACE.BIN) on your hard drive. It is advisable after this step to boot from the hard drive just to verify that it does boot properly in MS-DOS 6.22, and you can verify this with the VER command after the boot. Note that at this point you will be unable to boot into Win95.

STEP 5: Rename the files IO.SYS, MSDOS.SYS and COMMAND.COM (all are in the root directory, but two are hidden; see the Additional Notes at the end of this

article) to IO.DOS, MSDOS.DOS and COMMAND.DOS. This sets up the hard drive with files needed for the dual boot.

STEP 6: Delete the file DBLSPACE.BIN (in the root directory) if it was installed in Step 4. This is to prevent Win95 grumbling about the presence of an obsolete version of this file.

STEP 7: Using a Win95 Startup floppy disk, boot the system. Execute the command SYS C:, which will reinstall the Win95 system files IO.SYS, MSDOS.SYS and COMMAND.COM. This will allow booting into Win95. If you copied your AUTOEXEC.BAT and CONFIG.SYS files in Step 1, copy them back to the root directory (as stated previously, such files may not be a necessary part of your Win95 configuration).

STEP 8: Reboot the system and verify proper operation of Win95.

STEP 9: Assuming that everything is working properly, edit the file MSDOS.SYS to include the line BootMulti=1 under the [Options] heading (it may already be there). Then shut down Win95 with the ShutDown | Restart command. Just as soon as you seen the "Starting Windows 95" message, press F4 (you must be quick!). You should see the system boot now into MS-DOS 6.22.

STEP 10 [OPTIONAL]: The remaining DOS files that normally go into the directory C:\DOS may now be installed from your installation disk. I will not provide details on how to do this here. Generally, it involves extracting or expanding compressed files from the floppies with a special program provided on the first installation disk. There is a wealth of information on how to do this on the DOS installation disk itself.

Step 11 [OPTIONAL]: Windows 3.1 can be installed now while booted in DOS. Just be sure to select the "custom" installation option, and install it into a directory such as C:\WIN3 or another name other than C:\WINDOWS. Be careful concerning any messages dealing with the swap file. If Windows 3.1 had been on this disk previously, there may be an old swap file that will confuse the installation program (but don't think the Win95 swap file can become a problem; I have successfully performed this step myself).

ADDITIONAL NOTES: Many of the files involved in this setup are "Read Only" or "System" or "Hidden" or any combination of these attributes. It is advisable that you become familiar with how to change the attributes of files in both DOS and Win95. Look closely into the ATTRIB command in DOS. Also note the DIR command in MS-DOS 6.22 will show hidden files, if you include a comma after the DIR or use the command DIR /A. It is also important that you know how to edit text files with a text editor. If you are not familiar with editing text files, you will most assuredly become frustrated, and you may get an unpleasant surprise by the garbage introduced into the files when you use a word processor. I use Xtree Gold for all such operations, because it has the ability to manipulate attributes, edit text files and perform other file management functions. I'm sure Norton Utilities and others can do equally well, but if you lack these powerful tools that does not present an insurmountable roadblock. MS-DOS 6.22 has a text editor ("EDIT"), and the Notepad in Win95 will also do the job.

Reprinted, by permission, from the ORC Newsletter, Ozaukee Radio Club, P.O. Box 13, Port Washington, Wisconsin 53074 (Skip Douglas, KA9DDN, Editor). □

To test or not to test, that was the question.

By Nels Harvey, WA9JOB

"Twas a dark and stormy night." Snoopy often writes in the "Peanuts" comic strip. June 21, 1997 started out just that way, with an exceptional amount of rain, wind and thunder and lightning. My back yard was flooded, and I started out for the scheduled Amateur Radio test session taking a round about way to avoid many closed roads.

I had promised Gary Sharbuno, W19M, that I would run his Badger Examiners test session while he was out of the country on work assignment. I excused some of the assistants because the weather had made transportation almost impossible. Nobody would venture out on such a morning anyhow, would they? It was suggested that I should cancel the session and lend a hand with the Ozaukee ARES net instead. I decided that it would be best to at least make the effort as the scheduled test session was promoted on nets, with flyers, and the notice in *Badger State Smoke Signals*.

Bill Witt, N9KY, was waiting as I arrived at Amateur Electronics, our new test location. Ed Seigworth, AA9GT, was making his way through the flooded streets, and we were unable to navigate to pick up Mariann Littell, AA9TB. With so many roads closed, I figured it would be a light session.

I went in to the store to gain access to the testing area, and when we opened the door, there was a line of people anxious to take their tests! We let them in early, due to the still torrential rain, and we hurried to set up. Forms were being filled out, tests issued and brought back for grading, the overwhelming line continued to grow, and in the midst of all the activity, one sightless girl needed direct assistance from one of the examiners.

After the rain let up, and the testing was completed, we tallied the results. Twelve people had earned their No-code Technician License, and one had upgraded to Advanced Class. Forty one tests were given overall, with twenty seven passed. The sightless girl was ecstatic to have successfully passed her exams and looked forward to receiving her license.

Bill, Ed, and I sat back and reflected on the morning's events. What if we had canceled the test session? The weather certainly could have warranted that. Thirteen people would have had to wait for another session to achieve their licenses. A negative reflection would have been cast on our operation and perhaps, on Amateur Radio, by the applicants, many of whom had traveled from places like Port Washington, Wales, and Racine. The best part of the day however, was to see the unabridged joy in the unseeing eyes of a young lady who had finally reached her goal. □

Your subscription to Badger State Smoke Signals would be appreciated. Please use the form on page 5.

FCC sequential callsign update

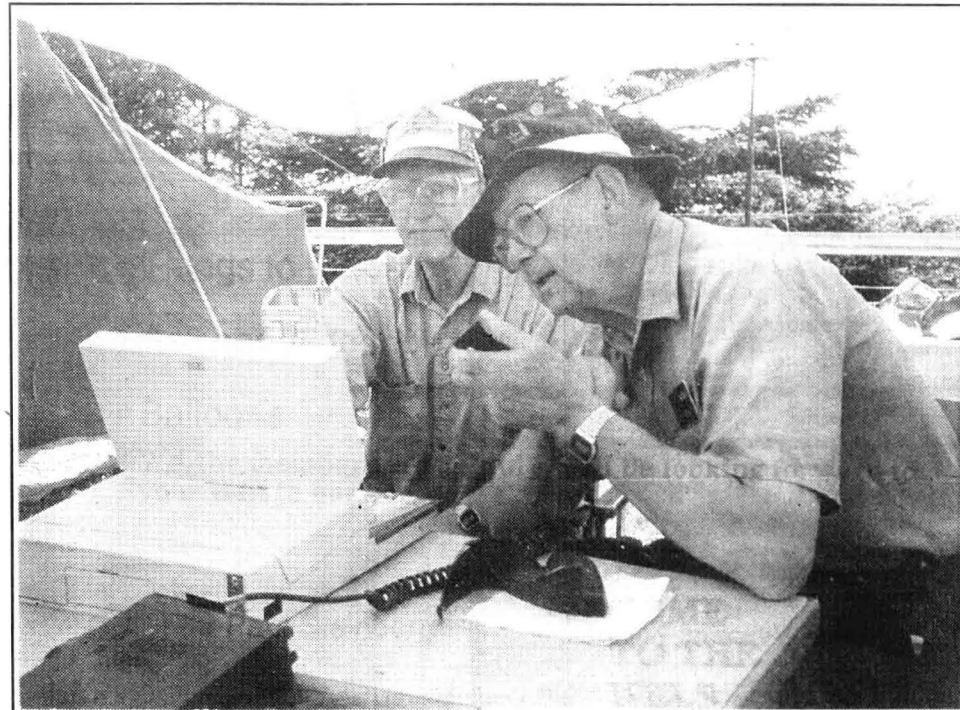
The following is a list of FCC sequentially assigned call signs issued as of July 2, 1997.

District	Group A Am Extra	Group B Advanced	Group C Tech/Gen	Group D Novice
0	AB0FW	KI0JA	++	KC0BNX
1	AA1SI	KE1IA	N1ZOA	KB1CEP
2	AB2DY	KG2MA	++	KC2CDJ
3	AA3PZ	KF3AD	N3ZRH	KB3BUF
4	AF4EB	KU4IF	++	KF4TBS
5	AC5NC	KM5KH	++	KD5BOY
6	AD6CA	KQ6QB	++	KF6MOW
7	AB7VW	KK7IM	++	KC7YOU
8	AB8AT	KI8DD	++	KC8ICF
9	AA9UR	KG9KX	++	KB9RBX
N Mariana Is	NH0B	AH0AY	KH0GT	WH0ABH
Guam	++	AH2DD	KH2SA	WH2ANT
Hawaii	AH7V	AH6PC	KH7FB	WH6DEF
Amer Samoa	AH8O	AH8AH	KH8DK	WH8ABF
Alaska	AL0F	AL7QU	KL0JZ	WL7CUK
Virgin Is	++	KP2CL	NP2JR	WP2AII
Puerto Rico	NP3I	KP3AY	NP3PB	WP4NNF

++ All call signs in this group have been issued in this district.

New prefixes are available for this block, but none have been issued.

Field Day with QCWA/Southeastern Chapter 162



Young, middle-aged, or "seasoned", Field Day is for everyone. Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter 162 of the Quarter Century Wireless Association took to the wilds and had a great time of it. Here, chapter Secretary/Treasurer Bob Jensen, W0WLN (mike in hand), is engrossed in a 2-meter QRP contact, as President Ken Knoff, N9NBC, does the computer logging chores. More Chapter 162 pix are elsewhere in this issue.

Foundation for Amateur Radio names scholarship winners

West Allis, South Milwaukee clubs provide seven awards; one QCWA winner is Wisconsinite

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc. is pleased to announce the 1997 winners for the fifty nine (59) scholarships which it administers. These scholarships were open to all licensed Radio Amateurs meeting the qualifications and residence requirements of the various sponsors. The Foundation is a non-profit organization incorporated in the District of Columbia, representing more than seventy-five clubs in Maryland, the District of Columbia and Northern Virginia. It is devoted exclusively to the scientific, literary and educational pursuits that advance the purposes of the Amateur Radio Service. Announcement of our 1998 awards will appear in the January or February issues of the major Amateur Radio publications and selected radio club newsletters.



WARAC Memorial Scholarships - \$1000 each: Sponsored by the West Allis Radio Amateur Club

Steven D. Miller, KB9DFE - Spooner, WI
Christopher D. Molek, KB9GTK - Richland Center, WI
Amy L. Tlachac, N9TLN - Wisconsin Rapids, WI

South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club Scholarships - \$500 each

Benjamin F. Kablau, AA9RI - Shorewood, WI
Steven Lampereur, KB9MWR - Green Bay, WI
Raymond G. Meyer, N9PBY - Port Washington, WI
James E. Slone, KB9JSI - New Palestine, IN

In addition, one of the QCWA Memorial Scholarships (a total of 10 at \$800 each) was won by Joshua J. Henry, KB9JJG - Wisconsin Rapids, WI

For information, write: FAR Scholarships, 6903 Rhode Island Avenue, College Park, MD 20740.

- Foundation for Amateur Radio

PROPAGATION PREDICTIONS



By Woody Minar, K9EF
13508 Tabscott Lane, Chantilly, VA

On December 21, 1901 when Guglielmo Marconi first received morse code in St. John's, Newfoundland from Poldh, England, he probably was not aware of the difficult odds that faced him that day. Oh, he knew the odds of hearing that Morse code, but probably not the fact that the odds of propagation were not on his side, either.

That day, propagation was about as bad as it gets. So much so, that July, 1901 was the bottom of Cycle 13, the fifth smallest sunspot cycle in recorded history since 1700. By the time December rolled around, the cycle was still at the bottom not to mention the mean sunspot number for that month was zero (0). For the entire year, the mean sunspot cycle number was only 2.7. The peaks of Cycles 13 and 14 occurred in 1893 (SSN 55) and 1905 (SSN 63.5). By comparison, the mean early SSN for 1979 was 155.4 and for 1989 it was 110. The minimums for the past 40 years have been no less than 10.2 with once exception - October 1996 at 1.8.

So, where are we today? I have found no "breakdown" when Cycle 22 ended, but I'm sure it's October 1996 based on preliminary data. From my data collection and observations over the last 25 years, on average, once a cycle reaches bottom, two years later it will reach 50% of its peak value and 2.5 years from the bottom of one cycle to the first peak of the next. Prediction data from NOAA suggest a 50% value (82) in February 1998 with a peak of 160 occurring in February 2000. This is good news!

For more information, you should visit the NOAA web site - <http://www.sec.noaa.gov>.

Hamfest advertisers are reminded that we **MUST** have your event's flyer **NO LATER** than 8 WEEKS before the date of your event to assure timely publication. If want two display ads, it becomes 12 weeks. This is **YOUR** responsibility. Send to K9ZZ.

The very Special Olympics

By Joe Larson, N9JW
33 Hazelwood Drive
Stevens Point WI 54481

This is a true story. I changed all the names.



The man was sitting down in Tournament Central, holding a hand over his face. He looked like a friend of my father's, except he was crying. One of the track volunteers had her arm around him. "Don't worry, Roger." She sounded so certain. "We'll find your coach."

Roger Trent was about sixty years old, with wispy gray hair. He had gotten separated from his coach in the crowd at the Wisconsin State Special Olympics summer games in Stevens Point, Wisconsin. He knew he was supposed to compete in the 100 meter walk at 2:00 P.M., so he told a volunteer about it. The volunteers know that they can bring lost athletes to the ham radio operators at Tournament Central, so she brought Roger to us.

"What is your coach's name, Roger?" Judy, one of the ham operators, could be kind and compassionate. The volunteer gave him a handkerchief to wipe his eyes. Crumpling it up in his fist, in a quivery voice, "I don't remember."

"Well, that's okay. Let's just get your agency number and look her up." Judy read off the tag around Roger's neck. "Agency 9-22. Okay, we'll find her." She patted his shoulder.

Pat, the other ham operator, picked up a microphone attached to a boxy radio on the table in front of her. "Track Announcer, this is Tournament Central."

After a couple seconds Peter, the ham operator stationed near the track public address system, boomed back, "Track P.A. here."

"Peter, please have them announce that a coach from agency 9-22 should come down to Tournament Central and pick up an athlete, Roger Trent. That's Roger Trent. I spell, Tango Romeo Echo November Tango." "Okay, will do."

It was almost 2:00 and Roger was going to miss his event.

Two thousand adults and children, all with developmental disabilities, participate in the Wisconsin State Special Olympics summer games, which are held on campus at the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point early in June each year. The athletes have to qualify in regional and sectional meets to make it to state. Many of them train year round in their events; all of them work hard for months to make it to the state competition. Missing an event is a disaster.

With family and friends and coaches and volunteers, over six thousand people are on campus during the games. Many of them are strangers to the campus and to the city. The central Wisconsin ham radio operators come out every year to help coordinate communications between the event venues, to keep the volunteer medical staff connected, and to help unite lost and found coaches and athletes. Like many of the rest of the volunteers, most of us have been here before. And whatever our official job descriptions might be, we are all of us doing the same thing: helping the games run smoothly.

In my case, it was my turn to roam around the

campus with my hand held radio. Our distinctive yellow shirts say "Amateur Radio Emergency Communications" on the back, so people will stop us with questions, ask for directions, and today, to show me their medals.

I left Roger with Pat and Judy and headed out of Tournament Central into the hot sunny day. Outside a group of athletes were coming toward me on the sidewalk. The fellow in front gave me a huge smile, holding up his gold medal with one hand and holding his other hand out for a high five. I said "Good going, guy. Nice work!"

In 1997, seventeen ham operators from the Stevens Point club, Central Wisconsin Radio Amateurs, worked a total of 332 hours during the summer games. Some of us took vacation to be there. Some scheduled it around their work schedules. As it happened, all of us had been there before. If you come to Special Olympics once and see what it's like, you will probably come back again.

There is no glory. There is no pay. In fact, it costs your precious time and, sometimes, a little money. But you don't do it for that. You do it for the "kids" (although the average age of an athlete is, in fact, twenty-nine). For some of them, this event is the biggest thing in their life. It's a privilege to be a part of it.

Walking the crowded campus I could hear announcements from the track PA, and from the track staging area bullhorns, a bit garbled by the breeze, like old 60's rock and roll songs on a distant AM radio station, with atmospheric fading providing some natural waa-wah effects. I tend to escape from crowds and noise by withdrawing into reverie, but when I heard "Will Roger Trent please report to the yellow staging area immediately" I jerked my head up. Then I grabbed for my microphone.

"Tournament Central, this is N9JW."

"Go ahead, Joe."

"I just heard Yellow Staging announce that Roger Trent is to report there immediately."

"Thank you very much!"

Over at the track area there was a large crowd in the bleachers watching the competition. The 4 by 100 meter relays were going on. I suddenly thought of my own strong, healthy son. He is a ham also, and he enjoys working at Special Olympics. But he couldn't make it this year. He was running anchor for his high school relay team at the Wisconsin state track championship finals in another city today. As the athletes on the track grabbed their batons from teammates and pounded off toward the finish line I thought of my son doing the same thing. My throat felt tight, and for a while I wouldn't have answered if anyone had called me on the radio. But I could still clap for the brave runners.

Judy told me later that Roger got out to his event on time. Afterward, he had his coach bring him back down to Tournament Central to thank us.

Beaming with pride, he held it out like a badge. "You helped me get this medal. You are the greatest. If I ever get lost again I am going to come right back here." The sunlight through the windows flashed off the shiny silver disk as he turned it so we could all see.

©1997 Joe Larson, N9JW

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QCWA/Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter Hits the Field

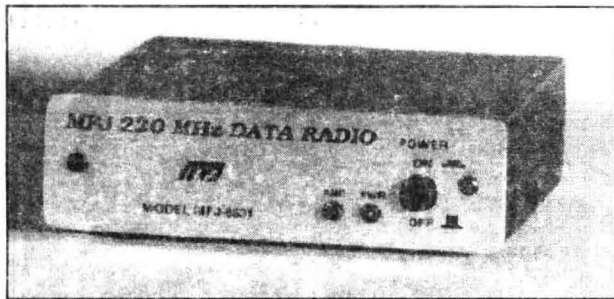


At left, chapter CW op Al Algiers, W9HR, operates Field Day 1997 with the chapter's call, KB9LUJ. Fellow member and logger Ken Knotek, W9GKM, looks on. All QSOs were QRP/battery power. Above is Herb Ladwig, W9PHJ, operating two-meter SSB. Just out of view is Ed Konicek, W9NVK, making sure Herb got it right.

-Photos and info from Larry McCalvy/WA9JMO

New Products

MFJ-8631 220 MHz Data Radio



The MFJ-8631 is ready-to-use as a dedicated data transceiver for the 220 MHz band on factory installed 223.700 MHz. It has all of the features of the 2 Meter version and gives you up to 3 watts output for only \$139.95.

Now you can get away from the crowded 2 Meter band. The 220 MHz band is wide open for high performance packet use from your MFJ-8631 Data radio. You can run all data rates from 1200 to 9600 baud right out of the box.

The MFJ-8631 is compatible with all TNCs having hardware DCDs. Also compatible with most TNCs having software DCDs. Just plug in an appropriate TNC cable (also available through MFJ), your antenna, 12 VDC and you're ready to enjoy error-free packet.

The MFJ-8631 gives you five watts output, plenty enough for packet operation. It'll cover your operating area without disrupting distant nodes. It's ready to operate on 223.700 MHz or order other plug-in crystals from MFJ... \$24.95 for each frequency pair.

The MFJ-8631 has Ultra-fast PIN diode switching. You get near instantaneous changeover between transmit and receive. A dual conversion receiver, 0.25 uV low noise preamp, double-tuned front end gives you excellent weak signal reception and freedom from intermod.

A narrow 10.7 MHz IF filter and special full data-bandwidth 455 KHz IF filter gives you optimum pass-band and steep skirts for error-free data reception. Unsquenced audio feeds directly to your TNC for lightning fast DCD response.

Pre-wired cables are available for your MFJ-8631 to a specific TNC. Order MFJ-5100 for all MFJ TNCs, PK-12, PK-96, PK-900, PacComm or other TAPR TNC-2 compatibles. Order MFJ-5100X for PK-232; Order MFJ-5100Z for PK-88; Order MFJ-5100YV for KAM/KPC3/KP9612; or order MFJ-5100YH for

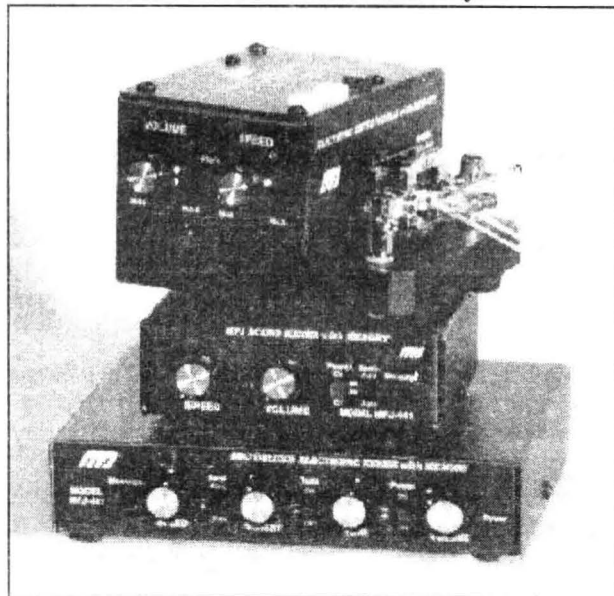
KPC3012, 3000 baud port. MFJ-4110 110 VAC Power supply for MFJ-8631 is \$39.95. Other data radios are MFJ-8621 Packet Only radio for 2 Meters - \$119.95, factory set to 145.01 MHz; and MFJ-8621X1 APRS ready (Automatic Packet Reporting System Transceiver) - \$139.95, factory set to 145.79 MHz.

You'll get dependable performance 24 hours-a-day. The MFJ-8631 is a tiny 5 x 5 x 1 1/2 inches that draws just 15 mA on receive and less than 1 amp on transmit on 12 VDC.

MFJ-8631 220 MHz Data radio is covered by MFJ's famous **NO MATTER WHAT** one year unconditional warranty. MFJ will repair or replace (at their option) your unit for one complete year.

For your nearest dealer or to order, call toll-free 800-647-1800, fax 601-323-6551 or write to MFJ Enterprises, Inc., 300 Industrial Park Road, Starkville, MS 39759.

MFJ SlimLine™ Electronic Keyers



MFJ presents its new *SlimLine™* Electronic Keyers. The MFJ-441 *SlimLine™* Econo Keyer has 37 character *MessageMemory™*... only \$59.95! MFJ-442 *SlimLine™* Keyer/Bench Paddle Combo... only \$144.95! MFJ-447 *SlimLine™* Deluxe Keyer is only 1 1/4" tall with front panel speed, weight, tone, and volume controls... only \$79.95!

MFJ's new *SlimLine™* Electronic Keyers can help you generate perfect code with almost no effort at all.

Plug an *ARRL* paddle (like an MFJ-3017) into MFJ's new *SlimLine™* Electronic Keyer. By squeezing you can automatically generate perfect code.

If you press the dot paddle before a dash completes, MFJ's *SmartDotDash™* will finish the dash, make a space and then make the dot! It's so forgiving you can concentrate on enjoying your QSO -- not on critical timing needed to make code sound good.

For beginners, type A keying makes sending code easy -- nothing else is sent when the dot or dash being sent is completed. Type B keying makes it even easier to produce certain characters, such as a period or letter C. If you release the paddle while a dot or dash is being sent, the dot or dash completes and an opposite element is sent.

Here's a more exciting use! Adjust your dot/dash lengths to sound distinctive. Rare DX can easily pick you out of a pile up.

The MFJ-447/442 has MFJ's 500 character non-volatile *Message Memory™*. You can embed Message Loop and Extra Word Space commands and a serial number for contesting that increments after each sending. An LED blinks during programming and blinks faster for low memory.

All MFJ *SlimLine™* keyers have speaker, pitch and volume controls for sidetone and speed and weight controls. Speed is 2 to 65 words-per-minute. Pitch is 200 to 1000 Hz.

Weight is 10 to 190 percent. Use dual or single lever paddle. 1/4 inch jack for paddle. Positive and Negative keying available. MFJ *KeyerSleep™* battery saver. Use 9 Volt battery or 110 VAC with MFJ-1312B, \$12.95.

MFJ-442, \$144.95. MFJ *SlimLine™* Keyer/Bench Paddle Combo. Front panel, speed, volume controls. MFJ-442X, \$89.95. Keyer only, 4 x 1 7/8 x 2 3/4 inches. Fits on your Bench or MFJ-564 iambic paddle.

MFJ-447, \$79.95. MFJ *SlimLine™* Deluxe Keyer is just 1 1/4 inches tall. Front panel speed, weight, tone, volume controls and Message, Semi-Auto, Tune, power buttons. Tune button keys transmitter. Jack for speaker/headphones. 6 1/4 x 1 1/4 x 4 3/4 inches.

MFJ-441, \$59.95. MFJ *SlimLine™* Econo Keyer. Just 1 1/4 inches tall. Has volatile 37 character *MessageMemory™*, front panel speed and volume controls. 4 x 1 1/4 x 3 1/4 inches.

MFJ's *SlimLine™* Electronic Keyers (MFJ-441, MFJ-442, and MFJ-447) come with MFJ's famous "NO MATTER WHAT" one year unconditional warranty. MFJ will repair or replace (at our option) for one full year.

For your nearest dealer or to order, call toll-free 800-647-1800, fax 601-323-6551 or write to MFJ Enterprises, Inc., 300 Industrial Park Road, Starkville, MS 39759.

MFJ new product news releases



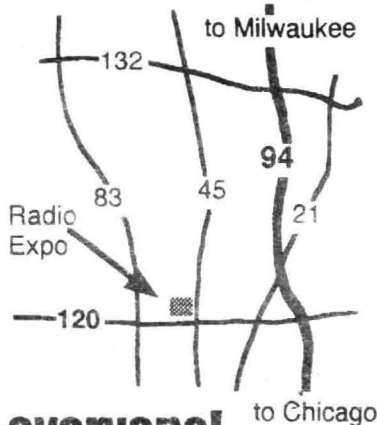
The Chicago FM Club presents

RADIO EXPO 97

SEPTEMBER
27th & 28th

Grounds Open from
Thursday at noon
Buildings open
Sat 8 AM to 4 PM
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Newest amateur equipment from major manufacturers
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5 large buildings (over 60,000 sq ft) of indoor exhibits
Hundreds of outdoor flea market sellers filling the fairgrounds
Advanced tickets \$5.00 - At the Gate \$6.00 - Good both days - Kids under 12 free
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Interesting forums presented both days
Talk-in on the CFMC repeater 146.16/76 MHz (107.2 Hz PL)
Ladies program - Arts and crafts
Questions ??? Call Radio Expo (708) 457-0966

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Name _____ Call _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Table Reservations for all buildings - \$20.00 per table (8ft long) - good both days _____ x \$20.00 = _____
Building assignment at discretion of CFMC / No table reservations accepted after Sept. 13, 1997

Advanced sale tickets - \$5.00 - REQUIRED with tables - good both days _____ x \$5.00 = _____

Electric - inside - _____ both days _____ = _____

Outside electric - \$10.00 good for entire event _____ = _____

Total _____ = _____

Make check out to: CHICAGO FM CLUB & send to: PO Box 56724 Harwood Hts IL 60656-0724
Remember to send a Self-addressed stamped envelope with your request.

Ham Help Needed for Scouting Outing

Bill Fletcher, AF9B, is looking for radio amateurs who would be will to do some ham radio tasks at the Boy Scout September Camporee, sponsored by the Four Lakes Council of the BSA, at Camp Castle Rock on Castle Rock Lake near the Mauston-New Lisbon area. The event is September 19-21. The ham duties are:

- Merit Badge Midway: Display ham radio to scouts and adults and operate from the booth.
- Internal and external communications: The camp has only a couple of handie-talkies. Therefore, there will be a need for hams to provide communications in the camp at the various activity sites. It appears that hams will be needed to be on duty from Friday afternoon to Sunday morning.

More details to come.

If you are interested in helping with this event, please contact Bill Fletcher, AF9B, at:

(608) 273-8373

e-mail: bfletche@mail.state.wi.us

Snail mail: 4358 Crawford Drive, Madison, WI 53711-4849.

Bill Fletcher, AF9B

Have you considered becoming an ARRL Volunteer Examiner? If you



are 18 or older, and are presently a General, Advanced, or Extra class licensee, the ARRL/VEC would be glad to hear from you. Feel free to contact the ARRL/VEC at (800) 927-7583 and request our Prospective VE Packet. Very 73 to all my friends in Wisconsin!

Barf Jahnke, W9JJ/1 • ARRL/VEC Manager

PortaPole?

• 26.3 ft Max • 5.5 ft Min • 8.5 lb •

Telescoping Aluminum Mast holds yagis, corners, parabolas, rotators, beams, wire antennas. Easy to carry, install... \$135
Park-on base support... \$70



Info S&H: \$12 pole \$6 base
AntennasWest \$1 Order Hotline:
Box 50062-W, Provo UT 84605 801-373-8425

Washington County Amateur Radio Club

Continued from page 13

tion had a lot of down time. Rip reported that one visitor got too close to the antenna switch and put the station on the wrong antenna.

Gary, W9XT, discussed the KMRA Field Day operations and mentioned some suggestions for us to consider. One recommendation was that instead of having a CW station and a SSB station, that we assign each station to a band.

There was some general discussion about meeting attendance, location, and programs. Rip, W9XT, suggested a mailing to members asking for program ideas. Gary, W9XT, said he has challenged everyone to come up with an idea. Walt, N9LLS, said he knows of someone who was a WWII fighter pilot that would make a good speaker.

OLD BUSINESS

Jim, KB9LTW, said that the next step for the proposed LAN would be site selection. He said that because Don, K9GR, had to leave the meeting early and his qth was one site being considered, that the discussion should be tabled until next month.

Jim also presented an 'Active Attenuator' project that he found in the November 1992 issue of QST magazine. He said that building these attenuators would be a good club project.

CLUB PICNIC

There was some discussion about this

summer's club picnic. Gary, W9XT, recommended having it after the August membership meeting to allow time for everyone to make plans for it. There was a motion by Bill, N9IBU, seconded by Rip, W9SIZ, to schedule the club picnic for August 23, 1997 at Riverside Park. Motion carried. Riverside Park is located along the Milwaukee River, north side Kilbourn St., east of Indiana Ave. in West Bend.

Gary, W9XT, said he has sent an E-mail message to Brian, N9LOO, regarding a logo for the club banner but has not heard from him yet.

Dave, KA9RNU, announced that the West Bend Girl Scouts in conjunction with Washington Emergency Government and the American Red Cross will be having a seminar in the Paradise Mall.

Rip, W9SIZ, announced to members that he has an Okidata printer if someone would have need for one.

There was a motion by Brian, KB9-NLF, seconded by Bill, N9IBU, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Tom, N9LZW, Secretary

Club Events

Aug 02, 1997, 9:00 a.m., Breakfast, Jimmy's in Jackson
Aug 07, 1997, 7:30 p.m., Net, 146.730
Aug 09, 1997, 9:00 a.m., Breakfast, Mineshaft in Hartford
Aug 14, 1997, 7:00 p.m., ARES Meeting at Courthouse
Aug 14, 1997, 7:30 p.m., Club Meeting at Courthouse
Aug 16, 1997, 9:00 a.m., Breakfast, Slinger Inn in Slinger
Aug 21, 1997, 7:30 p.m., Net, 146.730
Aug 23, 1997, 9:00 a.m., Breakfast, Woodsview in West Bend
Aug 28, 1997, 7:30 p.m., Net, 146.730
Aug 30, 1997, 9:00 a.m., Breakfast, Corfu in Hubertus



SHEBOYGAN County Amateur Radio Club

Mike Musiel, KF9SJ, Secretary
N9001 Dairyland Dr., Cleveland WI 53015

The July meeting of the Sheboygan County Amateur Radio Club was called to order by Kurt, N9ZMO. The SCARC meets every second Tuesday of the month at the Red Cross building, 2032 Erie Ave. in Sheboygan at 7 p.m.

The July meeting is traditionally held on Field Day weekend. This year, the meeting was held at the Taylor Park Field Day site. The new board members were introduced, and the final preparation for Field Day were discussed.

Volunteers were requested for the following events. July 4th - Fourth of July Parade, July 24th - Super Week bike Criteium, July 26th - Leukemia Ride, and July 26th - Hollandfest. Volunteers are still needed for the Old Plank Road Walk (13 Sept), and the Boy Scouts Jamboree On The Air in Oct. We would like to thank all those that helped during the July events. If you would like to help with the Old Plank Road Walk, contact Art, K9XJ, or one of the board members.

Field Day went well this year. Thanks go out to all who donated time and equipment to put the stations on the air. For those of you who could not make it out to

the site, we operated two HF stations, a digital HF station, and a all mode VHF station. For once, the weather cooperated with us, although I still got soaked returning donated antennas during final tear down.

NET SCHEDULES

7 p.m. Monday Nights, SCARC Fun Net, 147.06 PL 107.2, +.

Traders Net - Following the Monday night net on the first Monday of the month.

6:30 p.m. Thursday Nights, ARES Net, 147.255 PL 127.3, +, 444.175 PL 107.2 +.

We are happy to announce the return of the 10 net on 28.350 USB. This net has traditionally met at 7:30 p.m., following the Monday night 2 meter net. The 10 meter net may be moving to another night and time. Tune into the Monday night 2 meter net for further announcements.

Respectfully submitted:
Michael J. Musiel, KF9SJ

Notes from the SECTION MANAGER

Roy Pedersen, K9FHI
510 Park Street
Juneau WI 53039

Someone wants to know who is building an ark, seems people are getting ready, as we have with so much rain, anyone got extra passages?

Seems those people seeking to take license exams will go through anything and weather to get to the exam site. (ORC Newsletter).

Rock River Radio Club provided communications and safety for people watching the Circus Train go through Dodge County, the club also had a chance to go through the communication car of of the train, other counties via the route were also attended by other groups. Real nice to see all the wagons.

Program for Watertown ARC was "what are those crazy sounding signals saying" of course they were CW, RTTY, AMTOR and the like. (Watertown ARC).

Sorry to hear N4PEK of Kentucky became a Silent Key, he was a good member of D9RN.

Congratulations to eleven new hams in Tomahawk area. Tammy KB9QJO, and Mark KB9QJR; Loka Paul KB9QJJ, and Matt (10); KB9QJP Luce Carol, KB9QHM; Dennis, KB9-RDA; Terry (16), KB9QNR; Veronica (15), KB9QKT, KYM (12) QNQ, Pauline (10), KB9-QNO; Natalie (8), KB9QNP.

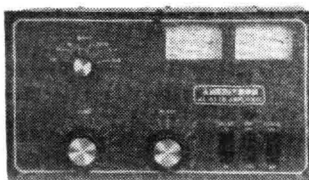
Terry, KB9AUP, and Dawn, KB9CNJ: all 5 of their offspring are Technicians.

Silent Keys from Tomahawk area W9IEP, N9SWC.

The nets in Wisconsin need more net control stations; come on fellows, let's have a little help from each of you. It would be much appreciated, it's fun, a public service and helps you to enjoy your hobby!

AMERITRON... 800 Watts... \$795

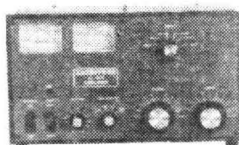
Ameritron AL-811H gives you four 811A tubes, 800 watts, superior quality -- for less money -- than the competitor's 3 tube 600 watt unit... Why settle for less power, less quality and pay more money?



AL-811H
Only the Ameritron AL-811H gives you four fully neutralized 811A transmitting tubes. You get absolute stability and superb performance on higher bands that can't be matched by un-neutralized tubes.
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Suggested Retail

AL-811
Horizontally -- to prevent hot tube elements from sagging and shorting out. Others, using potentially damaging horizontal mounting, require special 811A tubes to retard sagging and shorting.
\$649
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Kilowatt AL-80B doubles average SSB power



AL-80B
The AL-80B kilowatt desktop linear can double your average SSB power output with high-level RF processing -- runs cooler because its 3-500Z completely turns off between words. It saves hundreds of watts wasted as heat.
\$1195

You get a full kilowatt PEP output from a whisper quiet desktop linear. It's a compact 8 1/2 x 14 x 15 1/2 inches and plugs into your nearest 120 VAC wall outlet. Covers all bands 160-15 Meters, including WARC and MARS bands. You get 1000 watts output on SSB, 850 watts output on CW, 500 watts output on RTTY, an extra heavy duty power supply, 3-500Z tube, nearly 70% efficiency, tuned input, Pi/Pi-L output, inrush current protection, multi-voltage transformer, dual Cross-Needle meters, QSK compatibility, Two-Year Warranty, and much, much more! Made in U.S.A.

AMERITRON HF Linear Amps with Eimac™ 3CX800A7



AL-800H
Two tubes
1500 Watts plus
\$2295
Suggested Retail

Call your dealer for your best price!
AL-800
Single tube
1250 Watts
\$1595
Suggested Retail

Ameritron's new AL-800/H amps cover 160-15 Meters including WARC bands. The AL-800 has a single Eimac™ 3CX800A7 tube and produces 1250 Watts PEP. The AL-800H has two 3CX800A7s giving 1500 Watts plus. Both amps have an adjustable slug tuned

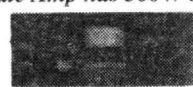
input circuit, grid protection, ALC control that is front panel adjustable, vernier reduction drives, heavy duty 32 pound grain oriented silicone steel core transformers and high capacitance computer grade filter capacitors.

These amplifiers have multi-voltage operation (14 user selectable AC line voltage from 90-140; 200-250 VAC), quiet pressurized ventilation systems, dual illuminated Cross-Needle meters that read peak forward and reflected power, SWR, high voltage, grid current and plate current.

Vernier reduction drives make tuning adjustments smooth and easy. Ameritron's exclusive Step-Start Inrush Protection™ stops damage to your amplifier from inrush current. Ameritron amps feature an attractive Lexan front panel decal and superior, all metal construction -- it's built to last! Ultra compact desktop size is perfect for your operating station. 8 1/2 x 16 1/2 x 14 1/2"

AMERITRON no tune Solid State Amplifiers

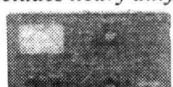
Ameritron ALS-500M Mobile no tune Solid State Amp has 500W out, covers 1.5-22 MHz



ALS-500M
Ideal Mobile amplifier -- uses
\$799
Suggested Retail

13.8 Vdc mobile electrical system, very compact 3 1/2 x 9 x 15 in., extremely quiet, 500W output, 1.5-22 MHz coverage, instant bandswitching, no tuning, no warm up, no tubes, SWR protected.

Ameritron ALS-600 no tune Solid State FET amp includes heavy duty power supply, 600 Watts out



ALS-600
No tuning, no fuss, no worries -- just turn it on and operate.
\$1299
Suggested Retail

power supply, 600 W output, continuous 1.5-22 MHz coverage, instant bandswitching, fully SWR protected, extremely quiet, very compact. Amp is 6 x 9 x 12 inches.

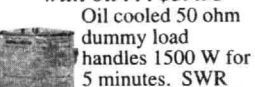
AMERITRON brings you the finest high power accessories!

RCS-8V Remote Coax Switch... \$149



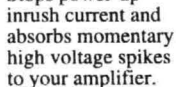
Replace 5 coax feedlines with a single coax. 1.2 SWR at 250 MHz. Useable to 450 MHz. 1kW at 150 MHz. RCS-4, \$139.4 position remote HF switch.

ADL-1500 Dummy Load with oil... \$59.95



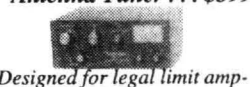
Oil cooled 50 ohm dummy load handles 1500 W for 5 minutes. SWR under 1.2 up to 30 MHz. Low SWR to 400 MHz.

ICP-120/240-\$79



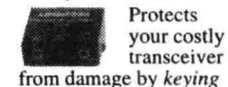
Stops power-up inrush current and absorbs momentary high voltage spikes to your amplifier. ICP-120 for 110-120V, ICP-240 for 220-240 V.

ATR-15 Legal Limit Antenna Tuner... \$399



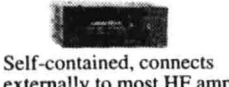
Designed for legal limit amplifiers! Covers 1.8-30 MHz, peak reading SWR/Wattmeter, 6 pos. antenna switch, 1:1 or 4:1 balun.

ARB-700 amp-to-radio interface... \$29.95



Protects your costly transceiver from damage by keying line transients, steady state current and excessive voltages.

QSK-5 Pin Diode T/R Switch... \$349



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PARTICIPATING CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Wisconsin Association of Repeaters

Mark Heimmermann, KF9CS, Secretary
1523 E. Moonbeam Tr. • Appleton, WI 54915



MEETING MINUTES June 14, 1997

Meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Nels Harvey, WA9JOB, at 1:10 p.m.

Introduction of members and guests:

Mark Heimmermann	KF9CS
Dick Drew	K9PJB
Jim Sheetz	K9OQO
Earl Lodendorf	
Joe Priebe, Sr.	W94ZS (sic)
Dave Knaus	WA9PCV
Bill Jablonske	W9NNS
Rick Elsener	W9RCW
Jim Broulette	WB9RBD
Joel Eschmann	W9MLD
Mike Hamman	KA9BHL
Dan Novotny	WB9WHQ
Ted Jensen	KE6WF
Nels Harvey	WA9JOB

The minutes of the previous meeting were printed in the newsletter. There were no corrections to these minutes and so they stood as printed.

Treasurer's Report: Currently the balance stands at \$2,336.23. Treasurer's report was approved and accepted.

Newsletter Report: Everyone thinks that Ray Vollrath is doing a nice job on the newsletter.

Frequency coordinator's Report: As of today we have 308 repeaters listed. I don't know how many links. I am reviewing coordinations starting with the annual March renewals. (Dan listed over twenty-eight repeaters that are about to be de-coordinated.)

Please do not put five or six repeaters on one update form. Make copies of the form if necessary. All updates need to go to Jim Sheetz, K9OQO. If you bypass Jim, your mailing label for the newsletter does not get updated. Remember you must update your repeaters every year.

In April Nels and I went to Las Vegas. We had the opportunity to meet with many other coordinators from around the country. There were quite a few variations on methods of coordination.

Some of you know that for many years we have belonged to the MACC. The MACC encompasses about twenty-two states. This is with Ohio on the east and Washington State on the west. Dick Fiskey is president of the MACC. He is also on the committee for the National Frequency

Coordinator Council.

The NFCC was voted into existence primarily using internet and E-mail and now they're in the process of certifying coordination groups such as WAR. I have copies of the NFCC's standard certification document. We are voting on the standards.

To comply with the standards we need to maintain a frequency coordination database which contains, at minimum, the following items: amateur radio callsign, input and output frequencies, general location, systems sponsor, user access methods, PL communication mode, the coordinates within 1/10 minute, output power, effective radiated power, antenna height above ground level, above sea level and above average terrain, link and control frequencies, antenna pattern, coordinator's name, call, address, call point, e-mail address and if known the date of the original coordination, trustee's name, callsign, address, telephone number and e-mail address if different.

They are voting by e-mail and we have to vote on this issue, the deadline is tomorrow night at midnight June 15, 1997. Some of the things that will be voted on are proposed NFCC certification standards, NFCC by-laws amendment creating a dues system with membership application. Nels indicated he will put his vote in to accept the wording as published in the proposal. This means we in Wisconsin will have to conform to these coordination standards.

We support the MACC to the tune of \$75.00 a year. They give approval of our organization as Wisconsin's frequency coordination group. The NFCC will be in the same venue to approve coordination groups such as WAR. That is the kind of recognition we must have to make the work of the coordinators credible.

Someone is challenging the coordination group in Indiana. The NFCC will, on the merits of their coordination standards, determine which group is the viable group and which group is doing things right.

The next meeting is September 13, 1997 and will be held at the Chalet Motel in Mequon.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded and approved. The meeting was adjourned at 2:01 p.m.

WAR Minutes respectively submitted by:
Mark Heimmermann, KF9CS
Secretary



Riverland Amateur Radio Club

Dan Abts, N9PZC
Secretary

Club mail address: P.O. Box 621
Onalaska, WI 54650



MEETING MINUTES JULY 1, 1997

The July meeting of the Riverland Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 7:05 p.m. July 1, 1997 by President Duane, W9HWQ. There were 20 members in attendance.

The minutes of the June meeting were accepted as read by acting Secretary Dick, K0JYB, as Dan, N9PZC, was absent.

The Treasurer's report was accepted as read by Roger, KA9BKK. We have 70 members.

Programs: This evening there will be an auction of some equipment donated by the family of a Silent Key, K9KPE. Earl Poss.

444.75 Repeater: The repeater was struck by lightning, destroying or damaging the power supply, the controller and the repeater. A motion was made by Kent, W9LZQ, and seconded by Red, WO0W, that we send the repeater and the controller to a dealer or manufacturer for an estimate on repairs, not to exceed \$750, which is approximately one half the original cost of the equipment.

Bill, KE9XQ, made a motion that we hold off on the purchase of HF, VHF and UHF equipment until we find out the cost of the 440 repeater repair or replacement. The motion was seconded by Mark, KB9OFK. Motion passed.

Net Manager: Pete, N9XVG reported that we had 17 check-ins last Sunday. Things are going good with an average of 18 to 25 check-ins every week.

ARES/Skywarn: Kent, W9LZQ, informed us that skywarn group will be short handed for the next couple of weeks. He also suggested the use of a 203.5 sub-audible tone during a skywarn net operation.

Property Manager: Bob, N9LZK, will be auctioning the rest of the equipment belonging to K9KPE. Earl Poss, a silent key. The equipment, including an HF mobile and an HF vertical was donated by Earl's son Ralph, N9MDM, of Sandpoint, Id. The antennas will be used in the trailer.

Field Day: Bill, KE9XQ reported that the Field Day was an ideal situation allowing several people to gain experience in operating HF, packet and VHF modes, including APRS. Plans will be made for next year, having several stations operating at once. We had a low secret points

this year by design. Red, WO0W set up a portable 80 meter antenna made from irrigation pipe which was quite unique and worked well. Red also erected a 2 meter antenna and was responsible for placing two mufflers in tandem on the generator which worked very well.

Code Class: Bill, KE9XQ: We have a couple classes left and one man will take the test this month (July).

Old Business

Bob, N9LZQ, will set up a date for the Chicken Q. Our cost will be \$3.75 per chicken and the dinners will sell for \$5.00 thus giving us a profit of \$1.25 per dinner. We must sell 250 tickets or dinners to break even. Each member will receive 6 tickets to sell. A motion was made by Kent, W9LZQ, to go ahead with the chicken Q, set a date, line up the help and have tickets printed. Motion seconded by Bill, KE9XQ. Motion passed.

New Business

Video tapes: Terry Wirkus gave Dan, N9PZC, some ARRL video tapes promoting Amateur Radio. They can be used by TV and cable stations. Terry has edited them and has 4 tapes which can be used by the stations. These tapes were donated by Terry at his expense. He would like occasional use of the auto-patch as payment for the tapes. Kent, W9LZQ, moved that we give Terry a membership to the RARC for the remainder of the year and also for the following year. The motion was seconded by Red, WO0W. Motion Passed.

Bob, N9LZQ, suggested that we install lightning protection on the 440 repeater when the new installation is completed and that we consult with Red, WO0W, re types and options on such equipment.

Red, WO0W, reported on the Critter southern Minnesota which took place on Sat. June 14. Five RARC people participated as command post communicators. It was a good drill, being educational and pleasant. Red suggested that we bring the D.C. lighting back into use in the trailer as lighting is necessary when the generator is being re-fueled.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Dick, K0JYB acting secretary

Wisconsin Valley Radio Association

Kim Kunze, N9SDL, Secretary

P.O. Box 363 • Wausau, WI 54402

Six Meter Repeater: 51.19 Input/52.89 Output

MEETING MINUTES July 8, 1997

The meeting was the annual picnic and included a tour of the WVRA repeater site on Rib Mountain. Those present were: N9IAR, N9LJA, N9SID, N9TSZ, KB9OPN, KB9OPP, KB9DED, KB9DZG, KB9FRI, N9NMH, N9SDL, K9LWL, N9PIX, and N9TTA.

Joe Kamenick, K9LWL, gave the tour of the repeater site which is housed in the same building as the transmitter for WSAW-TV. Joe also gave an excellent tour and explanation of the workings of the WSAW TV equipment. Thanks, Joe, for your time and tour.

Rich Dreher, N9PIX, attended the tour as a guest. As president of DataWave

Technologies in Wausau, a internet service provider, he is willing to provide access to the internet for hams in the area via packet. He is planning to attend some of the upcoming WVRA meetings to discuss the issue and to get some feed back as to what interest there might be from the local ham community. I see this as an excellent opportunity for us all. He is looking for those interested in utilizing TCP/IP as a possibility. If you have some suggestions or questions give him an e-mail at rich@wwave.net.

The program for August will be a demonstration of satellite tracking software.

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Kunze,
N9SDL



E.C.A.R.C.

Eau Claire

AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Don Searing, W9NW, Secretary

P.O. Box 367 • Eau Claire, WI 54702-1867
http://www.eup.net/~mceraso/EARC.html

MEETING MINUTES July 8, 1997

President Kevin Zehr, N9OHE, opened the meeting at 1930 hours. Minutes of the June meeting were read and approved, as was the treasurer's report.

The club has had notification of a BSSS rate increase, and N9OHE suggested that the club consider a possible increase in dues to offset this.

Members were reminded of the emergency siren tests at 11 a.m. on the first Monday of each month. Volunteers are needed to listen for operation, and to check into the net usually run by KC9NN

and KB9RBP.

The 3rd Day activities at the Westgate Sportsman's Club went well with 335 contacts made on bands ranging from 2 to 75 meters. Operators included: AA9UK, KB9JOE, KB9TTY, KA9OMY, W9ABM, KG0KM, WB9RBP, KB9JOE, and KE9CS.

The club voted to purchase a PL (CTCSS) ACC factory board for the 84/24 repeater, at a cost not to exceed \$20.00.

Copies of the club's Web page were circulated. Created by N9QWE. Melanie Ceraso, it has been the recipient of two

Continued on page 11

Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

Art Evans, KA9KLZ, Acting Secretary
213 N. Jefferson • Cuba City WI 53807-1558

WISCONSIN NETS

Net	WNA	Freq.	UTC	CDT	Mgr.
BWN	Yes	3985	1100	0600	W9AYK
BEN	Yes	3985	1700	1200	KE9VU
WSBN	Yes	3985	2230	1730	K9UTQ
WNN	Yes	3723	2300	1800	N9MXW
WSSN	Yes	3645	2330	1830	N9BDL
WIN/E	Yes	3662	0000	1900	WB9ICH
WIN/L	Yes	3662	0300	2200	W9UW
NWTN	Yes	34/94	2330	1830	NS9Q
(Rhinelander area)					
RCRA	No	01/61 (Mondays CST)	2330 (Menomonie Area)	1830	KA9OMC
Gr. Bay	No	72/12	0145 (Green Bay Area)	2045	WB9NRK
ARES	No	4.65/5.25 (South East/South Central Wisconsin)	0100	2000	
RACES	No	3993.5	1300 (LSB Sunday)	0800	WA9OAY

Minutes of WNA meeting held at Junction City Village Park June 8, 1997

The meeting was called to order by the chairman WB9JSW at 11:33 a.m.

Present were: WNA members WB9JSW, N9BDL, WB9ICH, K9FHI, W9RCW, N9CK, WB9NRK, W9KKM, K9JPS, W9UW, and W9IHW. Guests: LoAnn Johnson, XYL of WB9NRK, Kelly Johnson, Harmonic of WB9NRK, Helen Becker, XYL of W9KKM, Beryl, KA9BAC, and Gary, KA9BAE.

The March minutes were approved by FHI/ICH.

Treasurer's report: WB9JSW reported:

Beginning Balance:	\$217.77
Income:	\$130.00
Expenses:	\$77.12
Ending Balance:	\$281.95

Reports

SM: K9FHI needs all the net managers to get a record of all their certificate holders. If anyone does not have a certificate let the STM know. He is in the process of getting new certificates. The preamble of the BEN and the WSBN should be as printed in the WNA manual. Will be getting the preambles typed out and will be sending to the NCS2E.

The WNA picnic will be August 24th at Robinson Park in Wisconsin Rapids on the East side on Highway 54. More details will be coming from N9UAR.

STM and SEC: Not present.

OBM: WB9NRK reported that the completed surveys to the OBS are going to be mailed out. This survey is going to give him feedback on if they are active and how they get their information and where they are posting them. There are eight OBS in our section. He sent out a message on the local BBS routed for Wisconsin for more volunteers and got no response.

WSBN: K9FHI reported that average monthly QNI was 23. An average of 3 pieces of traffic and an average time of 26 minutes. We need more NCS. The net duration should be 30 minutes.

BWN: W9RCW reported that the BWN is alive and well and need a couple of more alternate NCS. We need operators with computers for logging data for the Weather Bureau. We are averaging 50-65 messages every day; this has come up because propagation is getting better. Thanks for Bill, AA0OM, and Jim, WB9YPY, for relaying traffic; without them, we would have a low traffic count.

Rick would like to find an office supply place that has a low price on certificate envelopes. WB9JSW offered to help out.

BEN: WB9JSW talked to Wayne, KE9VU and he told him that the BEN is averaging 23-24 checkins in an average 30 minutes with 4-5 pieces of traffic every-

day. Looking for a NCS for Saturday.

WNN: N9BDL reported that things are going slow. Three different stations are taking NCS now. Rob, KA9GBG does most of them Pat, KB9OCZ is starting to be an NCS and N9JIY Mike. Averaging 3-4 checkins every evening. Unfortunately not many are Novices. Rob still has copies of the WNN manual and needs to distribute them to potential to new Novices. Need to originate messages for the purpose of training.

WSSN: N9BDL reported that things are remaining about the same. Lost 2 NCS, Paul, K9OT and Ed, W9NGP. Mike, N9JIY is now the NCS on Monday.

WIN-E: WB9ICH reported that things are holding well. Traffic 4 pieces per session. Time is going down from 15 to 10 minutes. Passing 90-97% of traffic.

WIN-L: W9UW reported checkins are averaging about 6. Time averages about 9 to 9.5 minutes per session. Averaging 1.5 pieces of traffic per session.

NWTN: N9BDL reported that the sessions have been cut to 5 days a week. We lost our repeater site due to intermod. The repeater is now at WB9YPY's location. Coverage is not as good. This is a serious problem; as a result checkins are down over several years ago.

D9RN: K9FHI reported that they need help. One guy can't do it alone all the time. The nets meet on 7.283 at 12:30 and 4:00. A lot of times they like to send a rep to the Central Area Net that is on 14.345 at 2:30 although you will likely start to hear them at 2:00. They need NCS. The nets do not last long.

Old Business

The report on the picnic has already been done.

New Business

Lee, N9BDL, said that the NCS is the frequency. It is up to the NCS to pick the frequency to have the net.

Carl, WB9JSW, noted that there is a discrepancy on how to handle relays. Some nets do not count that in the traffic count. There is a need to find a definitive answer by the SM or STM.

Rick, W9RCW, was wondering if the time of the nets is important. The ARRL does not need this, just the WNA. The net manager uses this information to find out how well the net is running and if propagation is affecting the net. It is up to each NM for its use.

Carl, WB9JSW, moved to form a committee to find out how to count relays. K9FHI said that he would check it out and report back in the August meeting.

Roy, K9FHI, said that he had 5 admission tickets for the Central Division Convention at Indianapolis, Indiana on July 12 and 13.

It was decided to dispose of the club trailer, since it is seldom used, repairs would be too costly, and the club may no longer store it at the present site. A new storage site is not readily available.

Lunch committee for the August 12 meeting: KB9AZZ, KC9NN.

Meeting adjourned at 2030 hours.

Respectfully submitted:
W9NW, Secretary

Lee, N9BDL, moved to keep the location of the June meetings at a central location in conjunction with the Stevens Point Swapfest and to co-ordinate the time of the meeting with the WAPR and QCWA meetings. Lew K9JPS seconded the motion.

Motion made to adjourn the meeting was made by BDL/FHI.

Respectfully Submitted:
Gary Pedersen, KA9BAE,

Acting Secretary

My sincere thanks to Gary Pedersen, KA9BAE, for taking the minutes at the Junction City meeting. Family obligations prevented me from attending the meeting but I certainly hope to see all of you at the picnic in August.

73 and CUL,
Art, KA9KLZ
WNA Secretary

Wisconsin NTS traffic report June 1997

With six out of the eight nets reporting, 2774 stations passed 2033 pieces of traffic in June. BWN 1440/1803. BEN 586/70. WSBN no report. WNN no report. WIN/E 199/69. WIN/L 183/44. NWTN 119/27.

Seven stations had traffic totals in excess of 100, four of whom made Brass Pounders League. Stations: W9IHW/816 (BPL), WB9JSW/764 (BPL), K9JPS/737 (BPL), W9RCW/704 (BPL), K9FHI/237, W9CBE/172, and N9BDL/109. Twenty eight stations submitted Station Activity reports and eleven stations submitted Public Service Honor Roll reports.

I mail my reports to League Headquarters on the 7th of the month. That makes the deadline for reports the 6th. I can accept reports until I start printing them up for mailing. If you can catch me on the

BWN on the morning of the 7th all would be well.

Hale Blakely, W9CBE, Asst. STM will also accept reports and forward them to me. Hale covers most of the CW and SSB nets so there is someone on almost every net to take reports.

Reports can also be sent VIA packet or e-mail.

My packet address is:
KA9KLZ@KC9KQ.WI.USA.NOAM
My e-mail address is:
aevans@mhtc.net

Thanks to all stations who participate in the Wisconsin nets. You are the nets and Wisconsin nets are the best. 73.

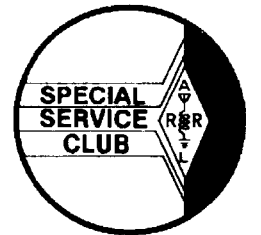
Submitted by:
Arthur A. Evans, KA9KLZ
Wisconsin Section Traffic Manager
July 11, 1997

Mancorad Radio Club

Dave Shemchak, KB9KQA,
Secretary

P.O. Box 204 • Manitowoc, WI
54221-0204

2-Meter Repeater: 146.01 Input/146.61 Output



MEETING MINUTES July 9th 1997

Due to conflicting schedules, a number of officers weren't able to attend the July meeting. Fred, W6BSF, a board member, brought the club meeting to order at 1943 hrs.

The meeting was started with introductions of the present Members.

The minutes from the June meeting, as published in the *Badger State Smoke Signals* were approved. Making the motion for approval was Bill, K9DUX, and sec-

onding the motion was Eric, WD9IAB.

The treasurer's report as read by Glenn, AA9MT, was approved. Making the motion was Eric, WD9IAB, and seconding the motion was Theresa, KB9KXE.

Glenn, AA9MT, has made up a new membership list. Contact him if you would like one.

Plans for a club picnic in August have been canceled. As a matter of fact, the club meeting, in August, has been canceled due to lack of participation! Motion

Please turn to page 12

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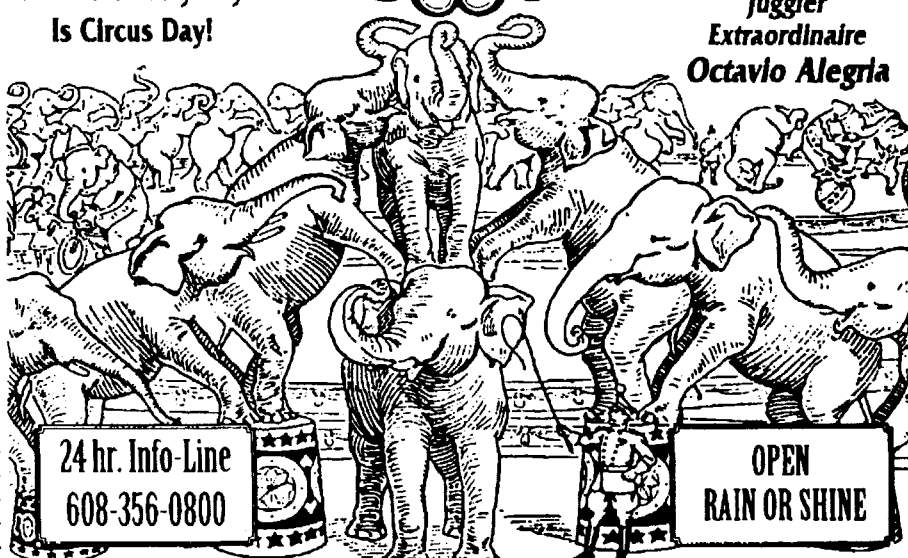
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Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club

Continued from page 10

awards.

Since this was the last meeting before the Hamfest, many details were discussed. Sign-up sheets for ticket-takers and other duties were passed around, and final plans were made.

ManCoRad Radio Club

Continued from page 11

made by Eric, WD9IAB, and seconded by Jim, W2GC. Meetings will resume on the second Wednesday in September.

Welcome once again to a new member, Gerald Hetrick, KB9QMF, who is now OFFICIALLY a member!

It's time once again for our support of the annual Bike - a - Thon. Steve, N9PBL, is looking for volunteers for both Saturday and Sunday, July 26th and 27th. Coordinators will act as liaisons to the event coordinators. One or two chase vehicles and one or two people per rest station will be needed per day. The Saturday leg will start in the Cleveland area and finish at the UW Manitowoc Campus. The Sunday leg will start at the UW Manitowoc Campus and continue up into Door County. We will turn over support duties to the next Club on the list in the Kewaunee area. However, if the last 2 years are any indication of the future, we may be asked to continue our support into Door County. Obviously, most of the help will be needed on Sunday. If you haven't volunteered to help out with any of the other Club functions so far, here's your chance! All volunteers should contact Steve, N9PBL, or Eric, WD9IAB, and they will let you know where you can be of the most assistance.

Our annual Special Event station will

be set up aboard the USS Cobia, an authentic WW II submarine, on Saturday August 16th. Set-up will commence at 8:00 a.m. and we will be on the air from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. CDT. (1400 - 2200 UTC) We will be operating on 20M (around 14.250 MHz) and 40M (around 7.250 MHz) Information on the station can be found in the major Amateur Radio publications.

Bill, W9DUX made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Fred, W6BSF, seconded the motion. The July Meeting of the ManCoRad Amateur Radio Club was adjourned at 20:00hrs.

Thanks to Fred, W6BSF for standing in for Janice, N9IQZ, and once again thanks to Patti, KB9NNX, for standing in for yours truly!

Submitted for approval:

David P. Shemchak, KB9KQA, Secretary

Attendance

Glenn	AA9MT
Fred	W6BSF
Patti	KB9NNX
Theresa	KB9KXE
Bill	K9DUX
Vic	WB9VYO
Jim	W2GC
Chuck	N9WUN
Paul	N9QFX
Eric	WD9IAB

Taylor County Area Amateur Radio Club

Tom Hrdina, N9GEN, President

2373 Willow Avenue • Medford WI 54451

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, August 7th at 7 p.m. in the Emergency Government meeting room located in the basement of the Sheriff's annex to the Taylor County Courthouse, corner of 2nd and Ogden Sts., Medford, WI. Talk-in on the 147.15 Medford repeater (+600 kHz) or 146.52 MHz simplex.

CLARK/TAYLOR COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE (ARES) NEWS

Mike Schoenfuss, N9GHZ
ARES Emergency Coordinator

At the 6/5/97 meeting of the Taylor County Area Amateur Radio Club, the membership present decided to pursue the offering of a course covering hazardous materials, to area Amateur Radio operators. The information obtained from completing this course would be beneficial to area ham radio operators, in the event that in the future, they might become involved in providing radio communications as part of a localized chemical spill, a not too unlikely event.

There would be NO cost for taking the course. It will take 3 months to complete, and will be done at the monthly TCAARC club meetings, as the program for that evening's meeting, most likely starting with the September meeting. The time allotment for each of the 3 meetings will be just 30 minutes (appx.). All tests are open book and are done as a group. Those completing the course will receive a wall certificate.

The course is entitled "Hazardous Materials: A Citizen's Orientation/Introduction" and is intended to provide a general introduction to hazardous materials. No prior knowledge of the subject is assumed. The course has 5 units: Hazardous Materials and Human Health, Hazardous Materials Regulation, Identifying Hazardous Materials, Preparing For Hazardous Materials Incidents, and Hazardous Materials In The Home.

Several hams are already signed up for the course. If you are interested in participating, please contact Rolly Sacho, Emergency Coordinator for the Taylor County Office of Emergency Government, at his office at 715-748-3503. The signup deadline for this course will be at the August meeting of the Taylor County Area Amateur Radio Club (August 7th).

Don't forget to try to check into the weekly ARES net held Wednesdays at 8:30 p.m. on the Medford repeater (147.75/147.15). If the repeater is down or not functioning properly, alternate frequencies, in order, are 147.15 MHz simplex and 146.52 MHz simplex. You're also

encouraged to volunteer for net control duty for the net.

N9GHZ, N9UBQ and N9FSZ attended a Taylor County simulated disaster exercise planning meeting held on the evening of 7/7/97 at the fire hall in Rib Lake, Wis. The meeting included a "table-top disaster exercise". The full-scale exercise will most likely be held sometime later this year. It is anticipated that there will be some level of ARES/Amateur Radio involvement in this exercise. Other agencies represented at the meeting included State of Wisconsin emergency management officials, Taylor County Human Services, Taylor County Commission on Aging, Taylor County Highway Dept., Village of Rib Lake Public Works Dept., Rib Lake Volunteer Fire Dept., Rib Lake Ambulance Service and First Responders, Rib Lake Police Dept., representatives from the American Red Cross, Salvation Army, Spirit of Marshfield air ambulance, local and area utilities, and others. A follow-up meeting will be held on August 4th at 6:30 PM at the Rib Lake Fire Hall.

Here are some important dates for 1997 to keep in mind, as they may likely generate requests for ARES communications, based on previous years:

August 15,16,17 - 5th Annual "Warrior" Pow Wow, The Highground, Neillsville

September 20 - 4th Annual High-ground Run/Walk, Neillsville

September 21 - Buzzard Buster Mountain Bike Race, Russell County Park, Hatfield

December 6 - 26th Annual Abbotsford Christmas Parade, downtown Abbotsford

Mark your calendars now, so that you can keep some, or all, of these dates open.

CONGRATULATIONS TO..

Mike Poulida of Gilman, who earned a Technician Class license at the VE Amateur Radio license exam session held on June 21st at Eau Claire, WI, after passing the Element 3A Technician written exam there. He had passed his Element 2 Novice written exam earlier, at the June 14th exam session held at Medford. His callsign is KB9RBL.

OTHER NEWS

There is a new ham radio operator living in the Clark/Taylor County area: Edward A. Westemeier, KE7IV, W6693 County Line Rd., Withee. He holds an Advanced Class license.

Jim Kline, KA9GCW, formerly of Ogema, has moved to Ladysmith, Wis., in Rusk County.

The next two scheduled meetings of the Black River Wireless Assn. (BRWA) are as follows: Thursday, 9/11/97 and Thursday, 11/13/97. Both meetings start at 7:15 PM, are open to all area Amateur Radio operators, and are held at the American Legion Hall in Loyal, Wis.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF CENTRAL WISCONSIN RADIO AMATEURS, LTD.

At University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point



WB9QFW 2-Meter Repeater 146.07-.67 and Club Station

P. O. Box 923 • Plover, WI 54467

Meeting Minutes July 9, 1997

President Mary Eiden, KA9FAS, called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. There was no program this month, as there was no VCR available.

The secretary's report was, as announced by secretary Mike Eiden, WD9JID, in the *Badger State Smoke Signals*. The treasurer's report was given by Joe Larson, N9JW. Both the minutes and the treasurer's report were approved as read.

Mike Pagel, K9UW, reported that the 67 repeater does have emergency power. He also reported that the 985 repeater is having it's receiver checked out.

He also stated that the computer that was used for logging during Field Day caused interference to the receiver. Some ideas about purchasing a used laptop computer for it were discussed. It was decided to check into it at a later date.

John Feltz, W9JN, reported that the Armory in Junction City is reserved for the Swapfest next year. It will be on the same weekend as this year. After discussing the Swapfest, a motion was made to give John the go to establish the publicity now for the Swapfest. Motion passed.

John also reported that Field Day went well. He reported that there were 707 contacts total. It was also discussed what is needed for next year's Field Day. The following is a breakdown of contacts and points scored this year:

80 CW	129 QSOs	516 pts
40 CW	219 QSOs	876 pts
20 CW	143 QSOs	572 pts
50 CW	4 QSOs	16 pts
2 CW	4 QSOs	16 pts
40 SSB	44 QSOs	88 pts
20 SSB	47 QSOs	94 pts
50 SSB	84 QSOs	168 pts
2 SSB	31 QSOs	62 pts
432 SSB	2 QSOs	4 pts
Total HF/VHF CW	499 QSOs	1996 pts
Total HF/VHF SSB	299 QSOs	416 pts
Total QSOs	707	
Total bonus points	600	

Total score 3012

Last year our total score was 1950

3012-1950 = gain of 1062 points

Mary Eiden, KA9FAS, reported that there will be no meeting next month. Instead, there will be a picnic at Bob Baird, W9NN's house. She also announced that elections will be held in September, and also that classes will start October 1.

It was also discussed about the fox hunt that will be held at the same time of the picnic at Bob's house. It was decided to wait and see how many people will actually want to participate in the fox hunt and then go from there on whether to have it or not.

Mike Pagel, K9UW, reported that 5 people in addition to the net control checked into the Net Monday night. He was looking for volunteers to run the net next Monday night.

Art Wysocki, N9BCA, was wondering who is authorized to take and use the club generator. He said a list of who can use it will be discussed and drawn up at the September meeting, along with other items such as the reason for using it; also if it should be run occasionally, and if a load should be put on it. It will be discussed later.

Mary Eiden, KA9FAS, suggested that the Club should have a Web Page on the Internet, mainly for publicity. Several possibilities were discussed. It was decided that Mary will work on it, and possibly have it as an attachment to her own homepage.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

There will be no meeting next month, August 13, 1997. There will be a possible fox hunt and a picnic at Bob Baird, W9NN's house.

Attendance

Mary Eiden	KA9FAS
Mike Eiden	WD9JID
Al Mallek	N9WBS
Al Mallek	K9WVM
Art Wysocki	N9BCA
Joe Larson	N9JW
Mike Pagel	K9UW
John Feltz	W9JN

Respectfully submitted:
Mike Eiden WD9JID
CWRA Secretary

Quarter Century Wireless Association Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter 162

Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO
5400 Six Mile Road
Racine, WI 53402



Field Day 1997 was near perfect! Fourteen members joined in our gala outing at Decision Farm as we sandwiched our operation between a hay-field and wire fence. The antennas, tent, tables and chairs were erected in short order; and at the stroke of 1800 hours Zulu, KB9LUI's three transmitters challenged the airwaves. CW, SSB and FM communications called to the world as each operator tried to get all of their five watt signal out of the antennas. Yes, we were a QRP Field Day Operation, using battery and solar powered equipment to transmit our messages via wire antennas. We made 45 CW and 19 Phone contacts, scored about 1000 points, operated only during daylight hours and had a ball.

Early last month, Bill Komistra, W9OVZ had a short stay in the hospital. Bill had a blocked neck artery. A surgical procedure corrected the problem and Bill is on the mend. I do not know what the medical terminology for this procedure is called. If I did, I couldn't pronounce it and sure as heck could not spell it. Bill, it was good to see you up and around at Field Day.

Our congratulation to Fern Fisher,

W9LCJ on passing the written part of the Extra Class License at the South Milwaukee Hamfest last month. We are all pulling for you on that nasty code portion.

Sunday, August 17th is our annual picnic. The Chapter will provide the beverages and watermelon; and Decision Farm will again have its world famous Roasted Corn. There will be two large grills for your pleasure. Attendees are asked to bring a dish to pass and your own meat to grill. The picnic begins around 1 pm at Decision Farm, 5400 Six Mile Road in Racine. Take I-94 to Hwy "G", go east for about six miles and you are there. Or Hwys 32 or 31 to Six Mile Road/Hwy "G", turn west and go about a half a mile. I will have the history files for your viewing entertainment and I'm sure Wendy will host a walking tour of her gardens. See you there!

Our September business meeting is scheduled for Monday the 15th at a place still to be determined -- probably the Meadow's Restaurant in Racine or the South Port Restaurant in Kenosha.

Lastly, a bit of administrative business.

Continued on page 13

The Racine Megacycle Club



Club Station W9UDU • Racine, WI
ARRL Affiliated
Providing Communications for American Red Cross and ARES

Mary Urban, N9ZWE, Secretary
c/o RMC • P. O. Box 3 • Racine, WI 53401-0003



MEETING MINUTES July 14, 1997

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Rob Madson, KF9ZT.

Those in attendance were:

Rob	KF9ZT, President
Ken	N9WHR, Vice President
Dave	AA9HL, Treasurer
Mary	N9ZWE, Secretary
Fern	N9VNU, Activities
Bob	W9LCJ
Spencer	W9EH
Bob	W9LDH
Dan	W0WLN
Cheryl	KA9OIL
Dick	WS9P
Jim	N9EWD
Gene	W9LXY
Jim	WB9ZKY
Matt	KA9LOK
Alan	GUEST
Harold	N9ZWX
Rob	KB9LXM
Larry	KB9RCH
Rees	WA9JMO
Dennis	K9UUT
Sue	WB9SVM
Donald	GUEST
Jonathan	KB9HAM
Bill	KB9PUF
Tony	KB9QVV
Chuck	KB9PUD
Arne	N9ZWM
Kathy	KB9JIH
	KA9ZPY
	N9ZWN

The meeting began with everyone in

attendance identifying themselves.

Treasurer Dave, AA9HL, read the financial report and it was accepted as read. Mary, N9ZWE, gave the secretary's report.

An Area Amateur Radio Activities list, information sheet about the RMC, Constitution and Bylaws are available for anyone who needs them. All the Hamfest press releases except one have been mailed. The first to appear in print was in the *Racine Journal Times* Community Section on July 12. The cable company has also been notified. Flyers were put out at the Oak Creek Hamfest the past weekend. The Dupage Amateur Radio Club donated hamfest tickets to our club and sent promotional flyers.

The *Journal Times* had the club meeting notice messed up. It took three weeks to straighten out.

Mary, N9ZWE, is looking for Field Day Logs for 1991 and previous to 1989.

Thanks went out to Lloyd WB9RGO, Jim, W9LXY, Stu, W9HI, Al, W9KZZ, Bill, W9OVZ, and Bob, W0WLN, for their help with the history. Lloyd donated pictures and a news article. Jim updated the Silent Key list and Bob checked names and call-signs. Also, Bob, W9EH, checked the internet for information about Jim Cox. The Silent Key list has grown from 42 to 55, with another added this evening. We also need a call sign for Bert Valley.

The RMC had been called the Racine Radio Club previously. No one is sure whether the club had been renamed in 1946 with Shimkus as President.

Congratulations went out to Robin KB9RCH on getting her license. She gets a lot of credit for not giving up.

The club will have a table at Hamfest and the History will be there for everyone to see. Help will be needed to man the table.

Spence, W9LDH, questioned the beginning date of the club. He has a badge previous to 1946 and Fern, W9LCJ, has some documentation which points to 1927. She thinks it was called the Racine Affiliated Amateur Club. A discussion was held on this subject.

President Rob, KF9ZT, went through the Field Day information. We only had 4 dupes on CW and 1 bad entry. Several people used the "I" instead of a "1". On sideband there were 42 dupes and 6 bad entries. There they had a problem with "zeros" and "o's". Going through the lists he came across some amusing call-signs which won't be mentioned in the minutes. Everything is ready to go in except for some pictures Mary, N9ZWE, has. The points total 2652 and adding emergency power, media publicity, gives us a claimed total of 3352 points. This was better than 1996. Lee, N9VNU, thanked everyone for helping. Special mention was given to Kenny, N9WHR, Pete, KB9LXM, and Mike, KB9JXX, as the Field Day committee chairs. Cheryl, WS9P, Kenny, N9WHR, and Robin, KB9RCH, for the food. Bob, W9EH, for the use of his lap top computers. Mary N9ZWE for publicity, Larry, WA9JMO, and Wendy, N9PAC, for use of their farm and an invite for 1998.

Mary, N9ZWE, said there were 60+ people who attended Field Day sometime during the two days. This included hams and visitors.

Bob, W0WLN, gave a Field Day report for the QCWA. They operated 3 stations, all QRP, 5 watts or under. All operated on battery power. Bob, W0WLN, made a contact in Manitoba on 20 meters. They had no fancy equipment but proved the old timers can still get out and operate on emergency power. He did not know their score.

Rob, KF9ZT, asked for updates on Hamfest. Dave AA9HL said Tower Electronics, Radio Shack and Hour Electronics will be there. Fern W9LCJ mailed out notices for the Lakeshore Repeater meeting and included the Hamfest date on the notice. W0WLN said this is the first year

notices had been sent to all the Amateur Radio publications and he sent out 60 notices and free tickets to area clubs. He sent a self addressed, stamped envelope and only received 6 replies. He then mailed 80 letters to area clubs and received 5 replies. Dave, AA9HL, has a list of the ticket stubs to see how many come back. Arne, KA9ZPY, asked for help putting up signs. Don, KB9HAM, asked if flyers for 1998 could be ready by the July 27 hamfest, but Dave, AA9HL said we can't reserve South Hills Country Club more than a year in advance.

Dan, KA9OIL, gave the Fox Hunt Report. The last hunt was June 20, with transmitters being hidden at the Franksville Post Office and the other under a water tower by the Outlet Mall in Kenosha. The winning team was Gene, WB9ZKY, Cheryl, WS9P, Dave, WB9USI, and Bonnie, WB9ZKX. The next hunts are July 18, Aug 15, Sept 12, Oct 10, Nov 7, and Dec 5.

Cheryl, WS9P, and Dan, KA9OIL, spent several hours going through K9RRS' radio equipment with Naomi. There is a list of equipment which will be sold at our hamfest. This is only a part of the equipment. All the proceeds will be to his widow. Most of the equipment is brand new or in very good condition. Cash sales only.

Cheryl, WS9P, gave an update on the Radio Cruise in November. She needs reciprocal licenses from those who will be going. Radio plans on board ship can't be made until the licenses are received. Royal Caribbean is being very cooperative. She also has photographs of the ship and inspection reports.

The meeting was closed at 8:11 PM.

Spence, W9LDH, had a big smile on his face as he left the meeting with the GOODY BOX. The next membership meeting is August 11.

January 10, 1983 RMC meeting - The subject of "fox hunts" (a term used by citizen band operators used to avoid arrest by F.C.C. inspectors for holding hidden transmitter hunts). A motion was made by the secretary to the effect that since we are licensed amateur operators who can legally hold transmitter hunts, we should not lower ourselves to the level of C.B. operators and emulate them by using the term "fox hunt". The motion was ignored.

Red Cedar Repeater Association, Inc.

Steve Hart, KA9OMC, Secretary

E616 810th Avenue

Knapp, WI 54749

2-Meter Repeater: 146.01 Input/146.61 Output

Greetings, RCRA sponsors and guests.

Thanks to WB9PMF, Tim Rose at our Chippewa Falls news bureau, for writing last month's refreshing article for RCRA. Tim had expected to continue our monthly news for the summer but has made a job change to Hutchinson Technology and is involved in training at this time. We will look forward to hearing more from Tim.

It was great to see many friends who stopped by our setup in the tailgate area at the Eau Claire Swapfest. Thanks to WB9YMB, Jim, for donating a VCR and AEA interface, which were our main sales for the day. Also, our appreciation to N9LRV, Gerald at Menomonie, for donating an answering machine and a nice tube tester. Our gratitude to N9HME, Dan, for taking over for me in the parking lot and allowing me to mix and mingle. This was a very well put together hamfest, and I look forward to next year's at Eau Claire.

Skywarn spotters are getting their share of work this summer in western Wisconsin. N9LRV, Gerald, and NX9F, Jim, have been receiving calls from the Dunn County Emergency Government

Office to come to the office and assist in communications. KA9OMY, Steve, in Eau Claire, has been one of our bridges to communications with the Eau Claire spotters on the 31/91 repeater. We have had very good participation and we are getting a lot of help from our "news and weather" friends at Channel 18 with their "Storm Tracker" radar.

Other spotters following reports of funnel clouds in the Colfax area include N9ISN, Al, KE9CS, Ken, and N9EQP, Todd. N9PPE, Jeff at Bloomer, helped us recently assess damage after one storm that left us on battery backup at the repeater for about 14 hours. While nothing was damaged at the main site, Jeff and I found the road just west of the site just barely passable by the quick response of the rural electrical coop and the township road crews. KE9CS, Ken, also directed traffic at a point where a power line was down and, via our phone patch, helped rural electric pinpoint the location of their problem.

N9RSU, Leroy at Eau Claire, has also taken the technology leap to work with Johnson-Matthey. His work involves inspection of over 15,000 pieces a shift associated with the Pentium.

Between electronic engineering and his garden, KB9NIR, Scott, is trying to make CW contact with WJ9Y, Marlin, who is also involved in engineering.

Stay cool - Beat the Heat - Meet you on the repeater.

73.

Steve Hart, KA9OMC
RCRA Secretary/Treasurer

**Give a gift subscription to
Badger State Smoke Signals!**

QCWA/Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter 162

Continued from page 12

According to our records, the following individuals have a National QCWA dues expiration date as shown: Spencer Clope - W9LDH of August 31, 1997; Michael Anderson - WV7T, Rhoda Anderson - KB2BZY, Steve Bellgraph - K9ZL, James McChesney - WA0PFV, and David Weingart - AA9PK of September 30, 1997; and Fern Fisher - W9LCJ of October 31, 1997.

73, Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO



Washington County Amateur Radio Club

Tom Waldschmidt, N9LZW,
Secretary
465 Elder Lane
Allenton, WI 53002-9799



Club Repeater: 146.73 MHz

<http://www.nconnect.net/~WCARC>

MEETING MINUTES July 10, 1997

The July 10, 1997 meeting of the Washington County Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Gary Sutcliffe, W9XT. There were 12 members and 1 guest attending.

The minutes of the June membership meeting were read by Secretary Tom, N9LZW. There was a motion by Rip, W9SIZ, seconded by Bill, N9IBU, to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

The financial report was read by Treasurer Dave, KA9RNU. Don, K9GR, asked about the dues of a new member that had joined the club recently. Dave said that membership was reflected in the prior month's financial report. There was a motion by Jim, KB9LTW, seconded by Walt, N9LLS, to accept the financial report. Motion carried.

REPEATER COMMITTEE REPORT

Repeater Committee Chairman, Don, K9GR, gave a report on the status of the repeater. Don said that the repeater had been checked by Dale Marks, WB9ADB, and that the electronics appear to be working fine. There was some question about the duplexer, however. The duplexer was tuned twice with the same results. One cavity seemed to be a problem because its rejection adjustment was overly broad. The analysis showed that the duplexer should be replaced. Don also said that we are not certain what class of use our present duplexer was intended for. There also was no desensing detected by the equipment.

Maury, W9MQD, suggested removing the suspected cavity as a test. Don said this would require re-tuning of the duplexer

er along with the time of a service technician and monitor. Maury said he will ask Dale to see if this idea is worthwhile trying.

ARES

Emergency Coordinator, Walt N9LLS, said that he and Dave KA9RNU are planning to get together with the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) to plan a downed airplane scenario.

FIELD DAY REPORT

Walt, N9LLS, this year's Field Day Chairman reported that the club did about the same as last year with 3300 points. Walt said that more people for logging and operating is desirable. Both of the club's batteries went dead and it would be preferable to have two batteries per station. Walt explained that his car battery was used as a backup for awhile. The prime CW sta-

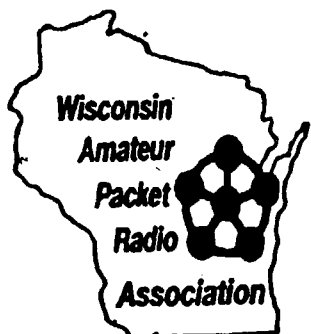
Continued on page 9



SSB
SELL SWAP BUY

OUR WANT ADS GET RESULTS

FOR SALE: MFJ-8621 Packet Only Data Radio, crystallized for 145.75; MFJ-1276 Packet-Pactor Data Controller. Both brand new, never used. Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ, 412 1/2 Ash St., Baraboo WI 53913. (608) 356-4031 or email smokesigs@baraboo.com



THE WISCONSIN PACKETEER

Wisconsin Amateur Packet Radio Association
Bob Gedemer, KA9JAC
609 Wilson Street • Neenah, WI 54956

Andy Nemec, KB9ALN, Editor • 720 N. Broadway (Upper West) • Green Bay, WI 54303

WAPR News - August, 1997

Hello, everybody. Quite a summer we have had. Hot, cool, stormy, sunny and short of electricity. They say the dog days of summer are August, let's hope they more closely resemble puppies.

Last month I promised the meeting minutes from our WAPR meeting in July. Unfortunately, Bob has not been able to get them to me because of his rather busy schedule. I am confident we will have them ready for next month.

I mentioned the interesting weather we have experienced in the month of July. It makes me think of the kind of past emergencies we have seen relating to weather. While we have not seen heavy use of packet for severe weather reporting here in Green Bay, other areas of the state use it for this purpose.

This begs the question: Have you used packet radio for emergency communications? I have used it in the past for drills, and found that there are some tasks that it works very well for. Others, not so well. It seems that anytime I need to get a large amount of printed information from point A to point B, it is an excellent medium. If speed is of the essence, sometimes voice works better.

If you have used packet for emergency purposes and have experiences to pass along, I would love to hear them. They can be good experiences or bad, both can be of value to others who are looking for emergency communications solutions. If you'd like to be a guest columnist and pass your story along in that manner, I would be pleased to provide you with the opportunity. If this is something that you are not comfortable doing, I would be pleased to help tell your story. Contact me at the address at the top of the page.

That's about all we have time and space for this month. Until next time, 73 from Andy.

Using the Wisconsin Network

Part 30

by Andy Nemec, KB9ALN

The last three installments of our series have found us setting up a few of the more popular TNC's for mail forwarding. This is one way to get "Door-to-Door" mail delivery service in packet radio. This automation of the packet radio system is not too hard to do, but does require a little more than the usual care in setting up. In this installment, we will conclude our sub-series with a look at configuring a couple of the "PK" series of TNC's made by AEA.

There are a number of TNC's with the PK model series designation, and their ability to do any amount of mail forwarding depends on the model and firmware revision of a given unit. We will discuss three models that are similar in their command structure with regard to packet, the PK-88 and companion model PCB-88, along with at least one version of the PK-232 MBX. If you have a PK-64 that was intended to be used with a Commodore 64, sorry. This model has a rudimentary mail drop that cannot be set up for mail forwarding without some major changes. Therefore, we will not discuss that TNC.

There were more than a few versions out there of both of these TNC's, and one could write an entire article about identifying the various firmware revisions and their capabilities! We will concentrate on the most popular and readily available used PK's of the 3 or 4 year-old variety. There were many firmware upgrades available for both of these TNC's, and some of the expanded capabilities are worth investigating. AEA, despite it's troubles in 1996 and 1997, is still in business under different ownership. Parts, upgrades, and all of the other customary support are back in place.

That being said, we'll talk about general forwarding considerations. First, note that most versions of the PK series do not initiate a connect and forward mail on their own. Your local BBS has to connect up and forward to it, and request a reverse forward. In other words, your TNC may have mail stored, waiting to be forwarded until you get incoming mail. Your BBS sysop may be able to provide a workaround, depending on what the BBS is capable of doing.

Next, the message has to be addressed to a recipient at another BBS. This is done a little differently than some mailboxes and just about all BBS's. Normally when you enter a message into a mailbox or BBS for distant delivery,

you include the recipient's home BBS and the hierarchical address of that BBS. Not so in some PK's. The usual BBS send command for such a message might look something like this:

S WX9APR@WZ9APR.#CW1.WI.USA.NOAM

But a your PK might only recognize:

S WX9APR@WZ9APR

If you try to add the usual hierarchical address components, it will ignore it and the rest of your message! The PK will still give you the appropriate mailbox prompts, but the message will hit the bit-bucket.

The lack of a complete hierarchical address may be a hindrance to automatic mail delivery by some BBS's. Some BBS's have a list of "known BBS's" and this is no problem - they recognize the BBS call-sign and "fill in the blanks". Others may not do this. You must discuss this with your BBS sysop and see if this will cause a problem for him or her.

Another accommodation you must make is the addition of spaces between the recipient call-sign, the @ symbol, and the recipient's home BBS call-sign. Notice that this appears in the above example. A Send command formatted like this: S WX9APR@WZ9APR will not work! Again, the usual mailbox prompts will appear, but the message will wind up in digital "La-La Land". You and your users need to be aware of this fact and will need to adjust your usual habits to accommodate the PK.

Aside from these accommodations, one more will have to be made. Most PK's will not automatically forward a message, even if it is properly addressed. A message intended to be forwarded first has to be "flagged" for forwarding by the operator of the mailbox. This is done with one of the "Sysop Only" commands available only at the console while the operator is locally logged on, "Edit". This command takes the form of the command, followed by the message number, and the letter F (for forward). If message number 5 is to go to a distant BBS, then the command would look like this from the command prompt:

Edit 5 F

Simple enough, but it does require that the mailbox Sysop know that the message is there and manually edit the message. If the message is not marked for forwarding, it will just sit there in the mailbox.

There is also another Sysop-only mailbox command, Free. This shows you how much free memory is left in the TNC for mailbox use. This is handy to help keep track of how much space is left when you find your mailbox is heavily used.

Here are the specific PK Commands that must be set

for forwarding to take place:

BBSMSG OFF This sets the responses the TNC sends to look like "TAPR" TNC command responses. AEA recommends this for compatibility with some BBS software.

HOME BBS < call > This designates the BBS that will be forwarding to your mailbox. Do not specify an SSID - the TNC will ignore it.

LITE OFF This is present on PK-88's, among others. It is "Packet Lite", a shortened version of the AX.25 protocol. Only some TNC's and almost no BBS's recognize this shortened protocol, it should be shut off.

MAILDROP ON Naturally, your mailbox has to be on before anybody can use it, and this includes the BBS that you intend to exchange mail with. MYMAIL < call > This is the call-sign you wish to assign to your mailbox. By convention, it is your call-sign with an SSID of -1. While you can use another version of your call-sign, it should be different than MYCALL (the default).

PK Commands that are optional:

3RDPARTY This can be set to on or off, and determines if call-signs other than yourself can send or receive messages with the PK mailbox. 3RDPARTY ON allows anyone to send messages to any call-sign.

KILLONFWD Setting this to ON will kill any messages that have been forwarded. If you find that the mailbox is frequently running out of free memory, turn this on. Forwarded messages will be deleted, making room for new messages.

USERS 2 Or more. If you plan on letting the rest of the world use the mailbox (this includes the BBS that is forwarding to you), then this is best set for more than one user. If you are conversing with someone while the BBS tries to start a forwarding session, the BBS will get a "busy" from it's connect request.

Also to be considered are MFROM, MTO and any BUDCALLS that might be in your TNC. These control the manner in which the TNC listens, and of course it has to be able to listen to hear the BBS make a connection. So do keep this in mind.

This will end our sub-series on mail BBS-to-TNC mail forwarding. Please remember that this is something that requires close cooperation with your local BBS Sysop, and do follow his or her advice. While we can't cover all makes and models of TNC's, your Sysop usually can assist with command parameters and other settings.

Good luck with your door-to-door delivery of mail! That's all we have for this time. Until next time, 73 from Andy.

WISCONSIN AMATEUR PACKET RADIO MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PLEASE PRINT

NAME: _____ CALL: _____ HOME PHONE: (____) _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME BBS: _____ FREQ: _____ (Listing your home BBS is important)

Your HOME BBS should be a full service BBS, not your TNC's mailbox.

MY PACKET STATION OPERATES: _____ DAY _____ NIGHT _____ 24HRS

I OPERATE A: _____ DIGIPEATER WITH ALIAS OF: _____

_____ FULL SERVICE BBS

PRIMARY PACKET INTEREST/EXPERTISE IS: _____

_____ YES I want to receive Badger State Smoke Signals and I understand that part of my dues goes to pay this subscription. cost \$20.00

_____ NO I do not wish to receive Badger State Smoke Signals as a part of my WAPR membership. Cost \$15.00

COMPLETE and return this form with your check or money order - \$15.00 membership only or \$20.00 membership and Badger State Smoke Signals. made payable to W.A.P.R. (NOT payable to Bob Gedemer) to:

Bob Gedemer KA9JAC/WAPR
609 Wilson St.
Neenah, WI. 54956-3129

THE TEST POINT

(continued from page 3)

MADISON, WI

VE exams are held in Madison every second Saturday morning of the month at 8 a.m. They are held at the operations building of the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District at 1610 Moorland Rd. To get there take the Beltline (Hwy 12 & 18) to South Towne Drive. Go south 8/10 mile till South Towne Drive makes a bend and becomes Moorland Rd. and enter at gate.

You should bring a picture ID, your original licence and a copy of your licence. For exams beyond the novice tests, bring a check for \$6.25, made out to the ARRL/VEC. If the special 610 form with the medical exemption is required, contact me beforehand to obtain one. No appointments are necessary to take exams. For further questions, please leave a message on the mailbox or phone me at (608) 832-6631.

Mark Jenks, N29B

RACINE, WISCONSIN - ARRL/VEC

Monthly - first Saturday, except January, July, and August.

Monthly exams are given 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the Red Cross Building, 4521 Taylor Avenue, Racine. Walk-ins are permitted.

Talk in on 147.87/27. Inquiries and registrations should be directed to Robert N. Jensen, W0WLN, 5616 Cambridge lane #6, Racine, WI. Telephone (414) 886-8551.

TOMAHAWK, WI

Last Saturday of every month, Jan. thru Oct.

Tomahawk Volunteer Examiners (ARRL/VEC).

Tomahawk, WI. No preregistration required, but appointment would be appreciated. Registration at 8:30 a.m. and testing starts at 9:00 a.m. For location or other information, inquire on 145.43 MHz, repeater or contact: Terry Collins, KB9AUP, W6564 Highway 8, Tomahawk, WI 54487. Telephone (715) 453-4633.

APPLETON, WI - ARRL/VEC

MANITOWOC, WI (HAMFEST)

KAUKAUNA, WI (HAMFEST)

Conducted by the Fox Cities ARC VE team. All test sessions in Appleton are held at James Armstrong Jr. High, 2020 S. Carpenter Street. Testing starting at 8 a.m. For Appleton information, contact George R. Croy, W9MDP, 2113 Twin Willows Drive, Appleton, WI 54914. (414) 730-0967. For Manitowoc or Kaukauna information, contact Larry Siebers, KD9IA (414) 759-1167.

STEVENS POINT, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Held in room 107, of the UWSP Science Building, on the corner of Fourth and Reserve Streets in Stevens Point. Contact Joe Larson, N9JW evenings at (715) 344-1182.

PEWAUKEE, WI Kettle Moraine Exam Team

Held at the Pewaukee WCTC Campus Science Building, Room S101, 9:00 a.m. to Noon. Contact Al Johnson, AA7CS, (414) 568-0836, 103357.3222@COMPUSERV.COM

OSHKOSH (OMRO)

The Oshkosh VE Team will administer Amateur Radio exams monthly on the first Saturday. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and exams will be given from 9 a.m. until noon at the Omro Community Center, 130 W. Larrabee, Omro, WI. Walk-ins welcomed. Bring a good quality photocopy of your original license and any other necessary documents such as a CSCE, etc. The first session will be through W5YI/VEC, and then sessions will alternate between ARRL/VEC and W5YI/VEC. The exam fee is \$6.25. For more information, please call Dick Lemme, K9FA, at (414) 235-0987, e-mail: lemme@vbe.com, or write Dick at 826 Jefferson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

EAU CLAIRE

The Eau Claire ARC will hold exam sessions on the second Saturday in the months of January, April, and October, as well as on the date of their annual hamfest during the summer. For further information contact: Carl F. Searing, W9NW, 1129 Mc Kinley Road, Eau Claire, WI 54703-2219, (715) 834-1303.

REDGRANITE, WI (W5YI/VEC)

The Radio Amateurs of Wisconsin (RAW) will be holding test sessions at the Civic Center in Redgranite, 202 Pine River Road, one block from Highway 21. Registration at 8:45 a.m. with testing at 9:00 a.m. Bring two forms of identification: \$6.25 per test, two copies of all original documents, CSCE's, Licenses, etc. All are welcome for breakfast at the Curve Inn on Highway 21, preceding the exam session. For further information, contact: Mark Miller, N9WT, (414) 231-1662 or Sharon Graniza, N9YGN, (414) 566-2362.

MENOMONIE, WI

The Menomonie, WI VE team will conduct its 1997 exams on Saturday, Saturday, November 1, 1997. At UW-Stout Communication Center, 820 South Broadway, Menomonie, WI. Walk-ins only, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Contact: Jim Ley, NX9F, (715) 232-1397 (W) or (715) 235-3998 (H).

WISCONSIN DELLS, WI

Wisconsin Dells City Hall, City Council Chambers, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Contact: K9WD, (608) 254-2895.

HUDSON, WI

Testing is held at the St. Croix County emergency government Center on Carmichael road in Hudson, WI.



Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

WB9FDZ (Original Club Call)
K9ODK (Robert L. Prine Memorial Call)



Raymond J. Matlosz, N9MLZ, Secretary
450 West 2nd Street • Reedsburg, WI 53959

The July 13, 1997 meeting of the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club, Inc., was called to order at 7:45 p.m. by Steve Schulze, N9UD0. The minutes were accepted as published in BSSS. Treasurer's Report was given by the President.

OLD BUSINESS: The club never did hear anything more from the Twin Cities AIDS Ride that peddled thru Reedsburg-Baraboo area en route to Chicago so no assistance was provided. On the day of this meeting, the Coast to Coast Bicycle Classic was peddling thru Baraboo en route to the east coast. Art Kleefisch, W9WSS provided ham radio coverage for the group. A good time was had by all at this year's field day. There was newspaper coverage of the club's field day activities by both the Baraboo News Republic and Baraboo Sun.

NEW BUSINESS: Bill Hommel, KA9QFJ, the third generation of his family to participate in the circus train, talked about his experiences on this year's train ride.

FIELD DAY LOST & FOUND

2 pieces of RG80 coax, 1 barrel connector, 1 keyer, 1 gummy, gooey piece of 58U and a clipboard.

CIRCUS CITY SWAPFEST

SATURDAY AUGUST 8, 1997 FAIRGROUNDS

Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. and testing begins promptly at 9:00 a.m. Contact: Greg Miller, KB9JHL, 503 4th St., Hudson, WI 54016. (715) 386-9857.

MARSHFIELD, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Sponsored by the Marshfield Area ARS. Held at St. Joseph Hospital, 611 St. Joseph Ave., in the 1 West classroom located adjacent to the Westwood Cafeteria on the main floor of the hospital. Use the main entrance or any other entrance and follow the signs to the cafeteria. Registration starts at 8:30 a.m. with testing starting at 9:00 a.m. Talk in on the 147.18 Marshfield repeater. Walk-ins welcome. Contact: Walter Friant, WB0KIN, 2310 Wallonie Drive, Marshfield, WI 54449 (715) 387-3870.

PEWAUKEE, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Contact: Rodger Bradley, AA90J, (414) 691-3089.

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, IL (ARRL/VEC)

Contact: Frank Stankiewicz, (847) 437-1464.

CEDARBURG, WI - ORC HAMFEST

EAU CLAIRE, WI - ECARC HAMFEST

GREEN BAY, WI - ARES HAMFEST

HAYWARD, WI - HAYWARD HAMFEST

KAUKAUNA, WI - SWAPFEST

MANITOWOC, WI LAKESHORE HAMFEST

MARSHFIELD, WI - HAMFEST

OAK CREEK, WI - SMARC HAMFEST

RACINE, WI - RACINE HAMFEST

RHINELANDER, WI - NWARC SWAPFEST

ROCKFORD, IL - RARC HAMFEST

ROTHSCHILD, WI - WVRA HAMFEST

SOUTH MILWAUKEE, WI - SMARC HAMFEST

STEVENS POINT, WI - CWRA SWAPFEST

WAUKESHA, WI - KMRA SWAPFEST

WAUKESHA, WI - MIDWINTER SWAPFEST

DUBUQUE, IA - HAMFEST

See the Swapfest column for additional information and contact persons.

DUBUQUE, IA - ARRL/VEC

Dubuque Hamfest. Contact: Carl Clark, N0KAX, 2145 Dencia Drive, Dubuque, IA 52001. (319) 557-9149.

LOVES PARK, IL

Third Saturday of every month. Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners (W5YI/VEC). Held at North Suburban District Library, 6340 North Second St. (Hwy. 251), Loves Park, IL. Contact: Dennis G. Eksten, W9SS, (815) 877-6768.

MINNESOTA TEST INFORMATION

From the September 1996 edition of "The Ground Wave", Saint Paul Radio Club.

Saint Paul Radio Club (SPRC)

Contact: Jay Bellows, K0QBE (612) 222-7253

Test Site: St. Paul Technical College

235 Marshall Ave

St. Paul, MN

TESTING: First Saturday of the month, 8:30 a.m.

Anoka Amateur Radio Club (AARC)

Contact: Art Mundy, W0FYX, (612) 571-7441

Test Site: Blaine City Hall 9150 Central Ave NE

Blaine, MN

TESTING: Second Saturday of the month, 9:00 a.m.

Bloomington Amateur Radio Club (BARC)

Contact: Dan Royer, KE0OR (612) 888-9756

Test Site: Creekside Community Center

98th & Penn Avenue S

Next meeting:

***** FOX HUNT *****

Wednesday August 13, 1997. Fox hunt starts in the parking lot at 6:30 p.m. Foxes are Steve & Bill. Business meeting follows room 14, Baraboo Civic Center.

Sincerely, Raymond J. Matlosz, N9MLZ
Club Secretary

The following members and guests were present:

Joseph Rowland	N9PRF	Portage
Raymond Matlosz	N9MLZ	Reedsburg
George Gabay	N9QOR	New Lisbon
Steve Schulze	N9UD0	Baraboo
Bill Hommel	KA9QFJ	Baraboo
Thomas Harrison	N9PQJ	Reedsburg
Arthur Kleefisch	W9WSS	Baraboo
Jim Paul	N9LKY	Baraboo
Bill Klinkner	N9KXX	Sauk City
Anne Klinkner	N9PQL	Sauk City
Patrick Klinkner		Sauk City
Leonard Wagner	N9XJG	Baraboo

Bloomington, MN

TESTING: Second Saturday of the month, 9:00 a.m.

Valley Amateur Radio Club (VARC)

Contact: Paul Ramey, W0G0 (612) 432-1640

Test Site: Hayes Community Center

14601 Hayes Road

Apple Valley, MN

TESTING: Second Thursday of the month 7:00 p.m.

W5YI

Contact: Dave Ranney, N0AXL (612) 933-2182

Test Site: Eden Prairie Library

479 Eden Prairie Drive

Eden Prairie, MN

TESTING: Third Tuesday of the month 6:30 p.m.

SE Metro Area Radio Club (SEMARC)

Contact: Dave Harrell, N0IPN (612) 459-8678

Test Site: Cottage Grove fire Station

8641 80th ST., S

Cottage Grove, MN

TESTING: Third Saturday of the month, 9:00 a.m.

The above information has been furnished by the various VEs. However, it is suggested that you confirm time, date and location BEFORE you make the trip to the test site. Occasionally, a test may be canceled and/or dates and locations changed. A Phone call could save you some grief and a wasted trip.



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SWAPFESTS



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SUNDAY
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HAM IT UP EVERY SPRING! MADISON SWAPFEST SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 1998

John Q. Hammons Trade Center
1313 John Q. Hammons Drive

Just west of intersection of Beltline and Greenway Blvd.

Sponsored by MARA/W9HSY

P. O. Box 8890 Madison, WI 53708-8890
Swapfest Information Line: (608) 245-8890

SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SWAPFEST 98

July 11, 1998

(Held every July)

American Legion Park

Shepard Avenue • Oak Creek, WI

(414) 762-3235

Extension 58

P. O. Box 102

South Milwaukee, WI 53172

Fox Cities Hamfest Sunday, November 2, 1997

Starlite Club, Hwy. 55 north of Kaukana

HAMFEST INFO:

Chad Pennings, N9PRC
1912 Russett Ct., Apt. 7
Appleton, WI 54914
(920) 993-0485

EXAM INFO:

Larry Siebers, KD9IA
(414) 759-1167

Lakeshore Hamfest and Computer Swapfest

Manitowoc County Expo

Intersection of Hwys. 42-151 and I-43 on Cty. Hwy. R

Saturday, May 10, 1997

For more information, call:

Glenn, AA9MT: 414-684-7096

Red, N9GHE: 414-684-9097

ManCoRad Radio Club • P.O. Box 204 • Manitowoc, WI 54221-0204

TRI-COUNTY ARC PRESENTS HAMFEST 1998

YOUR SPRING FAVORITE!

Sunday, March 15, 1998

Jefferson County Fairgrounds

TCARC • 213 Frederick Street
Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

414-563-6381

Evenings

21st Annual CWRA Swapfest

Sunday, June 7, 1998

8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

JUNCTION CITY VILLAGE PARK

Info: John Feltz, WA9LWJ
973 E. First Street

(715) 457-2506
Junction City, WI 54443

Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club SWAPFEST

Saturday, July 12, 1997

Eau Claire County Fairgrounds

Intersection of Highways 93 and I-94

Carol Ceraso • (715) 723-9205 Liz Searing • (715) 834-1303
P.O. Box 1867 • Eau Claire, WI 54702-1867

<http://www.edp.net/~mceraso/hamfest.html>

RACINE HAMFEST 97 Sunday, July 27, 1997

8 A.M. - 2 P.M.

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Send to RMC, P.O. Box 3, Racine, WI 53401

Ozaukee Radio Club 20TH ANNUAL RADIO AND COMPUTER SWAPFEST Saturday, May 2, 1998

8 a.m. to 1 p.m. • Circle B Recreation Center

Intersection of Highway 60 and County I

Exams by Badger Examiners, c/o Gary Sharbuno,

5119 W. Willow Rd., Brown Deer, WI 53222

Swapfest sponsored by the Ozaukee Radio Club

W58 N985 Essex Drive, Cedarburg, WI 53012-1439

Adams County Amateur Radio Club SPRING HAMFEST Sunday, June 7, 1998 (NOTE DATE/YEAR CHANGE)

Adams County Fairgrounds

West of Hwy. 13 on Cty. J • Friendship, WI

Adams County Amateur Radio Club P. O. Box 232
Friendship, WI 53934 (608) 564-7887

Packet: N9TD-1 on 145.03

Red Cedar Repeater Association, Inc.

AUCTION

February 24, 1998 • 7:00 p.m.

American Legion Post 53 • 634 Water Street

Eau Claire, WI

CONTACT:

Steve Hart, KA9OMC
E616 810th Ave.

715-665-2374
Knapp, WI 54749

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